

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

SINCE MUSSOLINI DECLARED WAR, we have considered it our duty to protest repeatedly against the prevalent practice of under-estimating the Italian enemy in Africa, and we have argued against the misleading policy of assuring the British public that the attack against British Somaliland must fail.

While the B.B.C. and almost all newspapers comforted themselves with suggestions that the Italian military position was immediately precarious, that widespread revolts endangered them in Ethiopia, and that the splendid work of our bombers was depriving them of irreplaceable stores of petrol, oil and munitions, we preferred to face the facts and assume that the second and third factors would exert their influence only in the long run, and that the immediate prospect was one of violent attack by strong mechanised forces. Events have fully justified our predictions, and, unhappily, exposed the absurdity of an unwarranted optimism which could have only the one result of disappointing the country, which has inevitably derived the impression that the Italian thrust into British Somaliland was a reckless venture doomed to disaster as its lines of communication lengthened across inhospitable deserts.

Yet any commentator, rightly entitled to exercise the responsible function of guiding his

fellow-countrymen should have known that our forces in that Protectorate were small, that the sudden and unexpected defection

The Peril of Unwarranted Optimism—our former allies in French Somaliland completely destroyed the plan of combined action which had been agreed, and that a sufficiently resolute Italian offensive had consequently good prospects of success. Though prudence therefore dictated caution in judgment, extravagance was allowed rein. If the truth had been faced and nobody would have had his hopes dashed by the continued progress of a far more numerous and heavily-armed enemy. His success is of much more importance psychologically than strategically, and that it should involve disagreeable psychological consequences in Great Britain is entirely the fault of a self-deception stubbornly advertised as truth by a few people who should have known better. It is to be hoped that the lesson will be taken to heart. To underrate the enemy must be foolish and may well be perilous. The tragic factor in the temporary surrender of British Somaliland is that a possibility so manifestly foreseeable in the circumstances should have been so faintly dismissed by those to whom their fellows looked for light. It cannot too often be insisted that British courage can bear the truth better than easy excuses.

THE PRESENTATION of fighter and bomber aircraft to the Imperial Government has quickly appealed to the public eye, and such welcome gifts come in large numbers

Great Results of A Proposal Made By 'E. A. & R.'

from far and near, from towns, counties, Colonies, clubs, societies, business concerns, and even from folk who have no strong link than the Christian name. Several daily newspapers have been discussing the origin of this movement, and one prominent London publication, has reached the conclusion that there had been no other proposal that would be devoted to such a purpose, but that, like Topsy, the idea "just grew." Picturesque though that notion may be, it is entirely without foundation, for as long ago as September 21 last—that is to say, in the third week of the war—"East Africa and Rhodesia" wrote in a leading article that the citizens of the Colonies "should be anxious that the country of their adoption should search their pockets in order to be able to make its worthy contribution to the common cause—in the form, perhaps, of squadrons of aeroplanes, or of single machines in the case of smaller Dependencies, or of the smaller naval craft used by the mine-sweeping and anti-submarine services. There is scarcely any limit to the sacrifices which East Africa and the Rhodesias would willingly make for such purposes, and we have no doubt that under inspired initiative, they will vie one with another in the honour of giving to the maximum of their capacity." The inspired initiative which we postulated was unfortunately not promptly forthcoming, and so many months were allowed to pass before a real beginning was made. Even then it was the Colonies which led the way—first, we believe, Mauritius, then the Gold Coast, and then the territories which might so easily have been the pioneers. So far as we know, ours was the first published suggestion of this most desirable and practical course of action, and we naturally regret that it was not East Africa or Rhodesia to whom the credit falls as the first donor of fighting aircraft.

EAST AFRICA is directly concerned with the courageous, statesmanlike and most timely endeavour of Mr. Amery to bring into the conduct of public affairs in India a new spirit of confidence and co-operation.

No sooner had he been entrusted with the portfolio of Secretary of State for India than he applied himself to the solution of a problem which has for long been much in his mind and prominent in his

speeches—that of harmonising the political life of one of the most important members of the British Commonwealth. His own recent pronouncements and that made by the Viceroy on his authority are evidence not merely of the Minister's understanding sympathy with India's reasonable aspirations, but of his sincere concern for the maintenance of the quality of the Empire. No Parliamentarian still active in the service of the State has a record approaching that of Mr. Amery in matters related to the expansion of self-government in the various states of the Crown. He was zealous for the grant of Dominion status to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa; his attitude to India (in which he was born) has always been enlightened; he favoured the grant of self-government to Southern Rhodesia, and supports the creation of a greater Rhodesia; and while at the Colonial Office he did all in his power to bring about that Union of East Africa Dependencies which is so manifestly necessary in the general interest.

An ardent believer in freedom, he is eager to see it spread wherever men are capable of grasping and using it. That fundamental principle underlies the present approach to the public leaders of all sections of India and African opinions who are urged to compose their differences.

It is first that their great country may increase its contribution to the common cause in these days of dire danger, and secondly, that the way may be prepared for an agreed plan of self-government which will protect every legitimate interest and offer the maximum prospects of success. Such a consummation would have an immediate repercussion in East Africa, which since the last war has so often been hampered by Indian problems which were primarily the product of agitation fostered for an Indian party's sake of party advantage. Again and again Kenya in particular has been dragged at the wheels of some party chariot designed simply as a snare for Indian use and quite unsuited to East African conditions. Political peace in India would therefore tend strongly to eliminate friction in East Africa, which consequently stands to benefit from the success of the efforts of a Secretary of State who has already put British Africa greatly in his debt. His initiative in convening a conference in India to discuss, among other matters, the contribution which India can best make to the equipment of the Empire's armies in East Africa, the Middle East, and Asia may well prove of the highest importance in the expansion of self-government in the campaigns against Italy in East Africa.

EVIDENCE ACCUMULATES of the dissatisfaction of many British manufacturers and merchants with the handicaps imposed by East African officials to the entry into those Dependencies of British goods.

Departmental Blundering.—In this country, export licences for which are readily obtainable. While the Imperial Government seeks to increase exports to the maximum as a contribution to financing the war, Colonial officials are imposing restrictions which are in flat contradiction to that policy. Small wonder that protests have, we learn, been addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to the Board of Trade. The obvious need is for the Colonies to take manufacturers' representatives and merchants into full confidence; telling them what articles are wholly or conditionally prohibited from importation. No such standard now exists for their guidance, and it is therefore not surprising that we are receiving an increasing number of complaints, the burden of which is that decisions appear to rest upon the whim of officials who will grant a licence one week and refuse it the next for the same goods, and who often take refuge in the excuse that there is a lack of stowage space from the United Kingdom when that is clearly not the case.

A trading company, which has always been so anxious to foster British exports, that nine-tenths of its exports have for years been of United Kingdom manufacture, informs us that all but about 10% of the articles which it regularly ships are on the free list in this country and promptly available, that it has experienced little difficulty in obtaining export licences for the balance, and that it meets constant obstruction in East Africa, where its agents have recently been refused licences for the entry of building materials, groceries and other items, on the ground that their transport would involve a waste of shipping space. Yet the same house was at the same time granted permission to import children's tricycles into the same territory. To take another case, Nyasaland has authorised the import of canned beer but barred bottled beer from Great Britain. The result was that bottles were shipped from Great Britain to South Africa, there filled by local brewers, and then sent on to Nyasaland. We

have similar details in respect of proprietary articles marketed by another company with factories in England and the Union; officialdom, which apparently favours the substitution of the Dominion as the source of supply for East Africa, is quite oblivious that the raw materials are regularly sent from this country to the South African factories, that negligible economy in shipping space would follow the transfer of the trade from the Mother Country, and that the first call on shipping from South to East Africa must be for the transport of troops, war materials and military stores.

The over-riding consideration in the case of foodstuffs must clearly be the needs of this country, which is safeguarded by the very efficient machinery of the Export Licensing Department of the Board of Trade, which, whenever there is a temporary shortage of any commodity, suspends export licences until the position has been regularised. Licences have been

Frustrating The Wishes of The Colonies.—suspended since the outbreak of war for the shipment of tinned meats and tinned fish, but the requirements of customers abroad have been readily satisfied. A large proportion of the articles of food exported are not essential foodstuffs; and the people of this country will certainly not object to shortages of such luxuries as anchovy paste, chutney and pickles in order that additional quantities may be released for export. Export trade, as several Ministers have emphasised, is war work, and last week "The Times" ranked it "not lower than munitions work in its importance to the vitality and fighting strength of the nation." Almost all industries have organised special export groups within themselves for the purpose of co-operating with the Imperial authorities in the drive to foster foreign sales, and His Majesty's Government must be assumed to know what articles it is desirable to export. The corollary should be the acceptance by Colonial Governments of goods which the Mother Country wishes to sell abroad. The public of the Colonies is eager to buy such commodities, and it will should not be frustrated by departmental blundering.

Honour for Rhodesian Airmen

East Africa & Rhodesia is able to state that Rhodesian airmen serving with the R.A.F. will shortly be distinguished by wearing a special badge prominently incorporating the name of their country. The word "Rhodesia" will apply to men from both Southern and Northern Rhodesia. Thus the Royal Air Force will point a moral for political departments of the Imperial Government.

51st Week of the War

British Withdrawal from Somaliland

War Office Tribute to Skill and Bravery of the Troops

COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF THE BRITISH FORCES FROM SOMALILAND was announced late on Monday in the following War Office statement:

The original Allied dispositions in Somaliland were based on a scheme of close Franco-British co-operation. Under this scheme the French forces in Jibuti were to hold the right flank, the pivot of the whole position, with the sudden success of the French Government from participation in further hostilities, a new and grave situation was created. More than half of the available Allied forces had been neutralised, and it became immediately necessary to decide upon the most effective measures for dealing with the emergency.

Various alternatives were open to us. We could reinforce British Somaliland in sufficient strength to ensure its safety, but to do so would have involved employing important reserves and thereby weakening the reserves in other theatres of war more important to our immediate war effort than Somaliland. The time factor was also a serious consideration. This plan was, therefore, reluctantly abandoned.

Another alternative was immediate and unresisting evacuation. This meant giving up British territory without fighting, and thereby losing the opportunity of inflicting losses on the enemy in men and material which would be difficult for him to replace.

Heavy Losses Inflicted on the Enemy

A third course was to remain with our small force, using it to inflict the maximum losses on the enemy until withdrawal became inevitable. This third course was chosen, and the evacuation of Somaliland has now been successfully completed. Our force has been withdrawn.

All guns except two lost in the earlier stages of the action have been evacuated. A great part of the material and stores and equipment have also been evacuated and the remainder destroyed. Our wounded have been safely brought away.

British, Rhodesian, Indian, African, and Somali troops, working in the closest co-operation with the Royal Navy and the R.A.F. have carried out the rôle assigned to them with conspicuous skill and bravery against greatly superior strength. Enemy losses, particularly among Black-shirt units, have been heavy and out of all proportion to our own.

The dire necessity which has compelled this temporary surrender of a British Protectorate will not have come as a surprise to our readers, whom we had prepared for such a contingency.

Communiqués of the Week

The events of the past week have thus been described in the official statements:

August 18.—The British communiqué issued in Cairo (quoted in our last issue) stated that the general attack upon the Jugargan Base had been repulsed. The Italians announced:

The first clash between Italian troops and the main body of enemy forces started at 3 p.m. on August 11. The Italian attack developed throughout Monday with a series of fierce engagements near the town of Adadish, which was occupied. The battle continues. In the same zone the Italian forces shot down a Blenheim bomber and the pilot, a captain, was later found dead. One Italian aeroplane was lost.

Other reports indicated that the Italian thrust was most determined, was preceded by low-flying aircraft engaged in bombing and machine-gunning, and was supported by light tanks. At one point the enemy pene-

trated our position at depth and captured two guns, of which the breech-blocks had been removed. Military spokesmen in London referred to the situation as serious but by no means critical.

The Admiralty announced:

British light naval forces yesterday bombarded an Italian troop concentration near the British Somaliland coast. The target was indicated to the ships by a Blenheim aircraft. The Italian concentration of troops and mechanised transport was dispersed by the bombardment, and it has been reported that this has held up the enemy advance towards Bulhar, between Zeila and Berbera. The port of Berbera was again bombed by enemy aircraft in the early hours of Monday, but no damage or casualties were caused.

A small enemy column was reported to have advanced from Zeila to Lukhayaah, about 100 miles from Berbera, the capital.

Rome said merely: "Fierce fighting continues east of Adadish. Despite bitter opposition on the part of the enemy our progress is maintained."

August 14.—The Cairo communiqué said:

Somaliland, August 13.—A quiet day. Enemy attacks on the Jugargan position continued, but were on the whole half-hearted and with little success. A column, including armoured fighting vehicles, which advanced along the coast road from Zeila was engaged by our aircraft and gun-fire of H.M. ships.

Aden.—After short engagements in the Gallabat area the enemy hastily withdrew behind his defence line. One officer and 32 other ranks. Our casualties were six.

August 15.—The Home Minister told the House of Commons:

I have some unsatisfactory news for the House about Somaliland. The small British holding force which was occupying the Tug Argen position, in the north-east of Hargeisa, has been driven back by greatly superior Italian forces, supported by armoured vehicles and considerable artillery. As operations are still in progress I cannot say more, but I shall deal generally with the Eastern situation in my statement next week.

It will be noted that Mr. Churchill preferred the place name Tug Argen. Cairo had previously used the form Jugargan, Gugargan, and Tugargan.

The Cairo official message ran:

Somaliland.—On Wednesday the enemy, having brought up fresh effectives, launched a violent attack after holding their forward positions for several days and causing the enemy severe losses, our troops held their positions in the rear, where the fighting continues. It is now known that the enemy are employing against us the greater part of two divisions, complete with artillery and armoured fighting vehicles, originally intended to oppose the French forces in French Somaliland.

From other sources it became known that the column advancing from Hargeisa numbered some 10,000 men, and that the Zeila force had swept on to within 50 miles of Berbera.

These events were met by "East Africa and Rhodesia," which has continued week after week to urge a realistic view of the indisputable facts—came as a shock to almost every daily newspaper and military correspondent in the country, and they at once joined in a chorus of suggestions that our forces were, after all, very restricted in numbers, that evacuation of our positions might be necessary, that Berbera might not be worth holding, but that British Somaliland was in any event of little material importance. Some widely read

journals had published absurdities past contempt. Even *The Times*, writing as late as August 16, concluded a survey with the words:

"The Italians possess very great local advantages from which they may be able to extract some temporary profit. Taking a broad view both in time and space it can, however, be seen that their forces in Abyssinia, Somalia and Eritrea are, in effect, a beleaguered garrison which must live on its reserves of supplies and whose only hope of survival is that France may pull Mussolini's chestnuts out of the fire by winning the war elsewhere.

Aircraft Harass the Italians

August 18. — The R.A.F. Command in Cairo announced:

"Raids were made on Makaka, Jajiga and the Dessie district. Hits were registered on hangars at Makaka and on airfield buildings at Dessie. At Jajiga bombs fell on buildings, causing several fires, one of which was preceded by a loud explosion. One enemy aircraft was left burning on the ground.

"Our aircraft continued to harass the Italian operations in British Somaliland. Motor transport and troops were successfully bombed and machine-gunned on the Berber-Zeila road and on the Biyo-Toga-Zeila road and in the Zangaran area. French air crews operating with the R.A.F. carried out valuable reconnaissance flights in the Oadweina and Hargeisa districts, during which they were machine-gunned.

"An Air Force and the naval barracks at Massawa were attacked by formations of bombers with considerable damage to buildings.

"On August 13 a formation of enemy bombers attempted an attack on Wajir, but were driven off without reaching their objective. The same day one enemy fighter was shot down in British Somaliland, the pilot being captured.

"The Italians claimed:

"One enemy aeroplane was brought down in flames over Zeila. Two enemy air raids on the aerodromes of Copocola and Massawa caused slight damage. Four dead and 12 wounded are reported among Italians and Natives. During an Italian air raid on Wajir, in Kenya, two enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground. One British fighter was shot down in combat.

"A Nairobi announcement said:

"Yesterday a patrol of our forward troops surprised an enemy patrol in the Northern Frontier district, with the result that four of the enemy were killed and five taken prisoner. Rifles and equipment were captured. Our troops suffered no casualties. During air reconnaissance in Southern Abyssinia our aircraft scored direct hits on motor transport and a camel convoy.

"War Office spokesmen described the Somaliland position as critical and predicted a probable withdrawal upon Berbera.

Position Admitted to be Critical

August 17. — The Stefani newsagency, Rome, asserted that H.M.S. ROYAL SOVEREIGN (29,150 tons) was anchored off Berbera to cover an evacuation and that vessels re-embarking stores were being bombed. The Rome wireless station said, "Within a few days this vast British Colony of Somaliland will be added to the Italian possessions.

"Al Cairo communique stated:—

"Our bombers attacked Zeila, an island nearby, and Adaleb, concentrating on military targets and troop concentrations. Repeated reconnaissances were made over main roads in Somaliland. Italian bombers attempted to raid Berbera, but were intercepted by aircraft operated by a French crew, who succeeded in shooting down one of the enemy bombers and driving off the others.

"The Italian communique said:

"Yesterday, the fifth day of the bloody battle for the conquest of British Somaliland, marked the culminating point of the campaign. The enemy is retreating on the entire front. One of our aircraft failed to return from a reconnaissance over the Red Sea.

"On August 18, it was officially announced in Cairo that an Italian bomber machine on patrol over Kamaran Island in the Red Sea shot down an enemy bomber in flames, but that one of our aircraft was compelled to land in the sea off Somaliland, the crew, however, were saved. Shortly afterwards another of our aircraft returning to Aden shot an Italian bomber into the sea in flames.

"On Friday, Sudanese police routed an enemy patrol of 12 men near Kurmuk, killing seven without suffering any loss themselves.

First Air Raid on Addis Ababa

August 19. — The first raid of the war on Addis Ababa was announced in an R.A.F. communique from Cairo, which said:

"R.A.F. bombers raided Addis Ababa military aerodrome. Direct hits were registered on two hangars. A petrol fire was started as a result of the bombing. All our aircraft returned safely.

"Numerous bombing raids and reconnaissance flights were made in Somaliland with the object of breaking up columns of motorised vehicles and harassing enemy troops advancing on Berbera. Considerable damage was done to enemy formations. One of our aircraft was shot down by enemy fighters, one member of the crew making a parachute descent.

"G.H.Q. Middle East, announced: "Kenya. On August 19 a few miles from Bungu a party of 30 *banda* (Native conscripts) fled after exchanging shots with a small party of King's African Rifles.

"August 20. — For the first time since the outbreak of war a semi-official statement suggested that the Italian forces in East Africa numbered 200,000 men, including one regular division, permanent and temporary militia, and Native troops. The air strength was put at 170 machines, about a quarter being fighters. Except in our own columns there had been no previous estimate of that order.

"The arrival in England of a second contingent of Southern Rhodesian airman was confirmed. They were disembarked at a northern port by Mr. Ianigan O'Keefe, the High Commissioner.

Many Gifts for Military Aircraft

"A new Speed the Planes Fund was recently inaugurated in Nyasaland, and within a month £7,000 had been subscribed for the purchase of an aircraft to be named after the Province. Dr. de Boer is organising the fund, and Mr. Scott, manager of the Bantu branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, is acting as honorary treasurer. Arrangements have been made for District Commissioners to accept Native subscriptions.

"Mr. J. J. Horn, of Ndola, and the British South Africa Co. have each given £1,000 to the Northern Rhodesia Sports and Pleasure Fund.

"The Mulungu Mine Reclamation Club, which recently made the magnificent donation to the British Government of £4,269 towards the purchase of an aeroplane, also proposes to devote two-thirds of its future monthly profits to the same cause.

"The Rhodesia Tobacco Association proposes to present an aeroplane to the Imperial Government. The Colony has already given nearly £30,000 for this purpose.

"Kenya Kongonis Cricket Club has decided that all subscriptions from members during 1940 shall be devoted to the Kenya War Fund, and that all available Club funds shall be invested in War Savings Certificates. £300 which had been set aside to finance the visit of an overseas touring team has been so utilised.

(Concluded on page 966)

Background to the

Britain's Opportunity. — For seven years Hitler has led democratic politicians by the nose, telling us what we should think about, what he was going to do, and what we might or might not do. Like children hypnotised on a chalk line, we have followed where he directed. For seven years we have seen every promise Hitler cared to see fulfilled to the letter. For seven years the oracle has worked. By autumn, the prophetic revelation of Adolf Hitler of Braunau will be shown by events to be phoney. Then Britain should state her case. She should speak to the world, especially to the peoples under Hitler's sway, telling them that it is her faith that life without freedom is not life, that peace without freedom is not peace, and that freedom is not freedom which does not recognise the equal value of all men, or the equal rights which all men have of one good will and the service of the community. It is then she should lay down a new Magna Charta — a Charter of Twentieth Century Freedom. She should do more — she should begin the gigantic task of repairing the havoc wrought by the policy of appeasement. The task of restoring faith in Britain's word. — *Federal Union News.*

Towards a New Economic Order. — Whenever a limitation of individuality is granted, it should be accompanied by limitation of profits. Surplus profits should be payable into various funds: (a) an equalisation fund for the maintenance of wages at a standard rate in bad times; (b) a similar equalisation fund for profits; (c) a sinking fund for the equivalent of capital lent or invested; (d) a fund for the extension of fixed capital; (e) a public service fund to be administered as a rule by representatives of the workers and of the national State or local authority. The principle of the Mosaic Law of Jubilee should be applied. It is perfectly ludicrous that because someone lent money for the building of, say, the Great Western Railway, he should become possessor of a saleable right to levy a private tax upon the railway for 21 years. Shares of 100 should be debentures and repayable at a certain date, or should, after bearing interest for a period of, say, 30 years, lose 5% of their capital value every year until they are extinguished. The contribution of labour must be equal to the contribution of capital, and will still, after rights carry a title to representation on the board of directors. — *The Archbishop of York in "The Christian News-Letter."*

Russia's Intentions. — Our reports for months have shown that the occupation of Bessarabia by Russia was part of the overall understanding with Germany. If Russia should extend her influence further towards the Straits, we believe that would be in contravention of that agreement. Our intelligence always showed that the understanding included provision for a German sphere of influence in the Black Sea. If Russia should over-step the Bessarabian frontier, we should take it as evidence that differences had arisen between Moscow and Berlin. Nothing has yet taken place which exceeds the terms of the understanding which we outlined at the beginning of the war. It is very important to watch developments, for very soon there will be decisive indications one way or the other. Russia should, according to plan, begin to interest herself more in Persia and Afghanistan very soon. Finland may also come into the picture again. Soviet statesmen are undoubtedly captivated by Germany's rapid expansion into swiftly won territories. Although the diplomatic, political and economic revolution has been working against the Allies, and they just what he wants is a British victory. He does not want Germany to gain objectives so swiftly. Excessive war or an indecisive and protracted peace would suit equally well. What the Russians wanted was the British Empire swept away, and Europe financially exhausted, that was the game. In the background was the odd feeling of kinship with Hitler. The Russians will do almost anything to avoid a clash with Germany, the prospect of which thoroughly frightens them. Here and there they will try and grab an advantage. They will try and sell us an idea to strengthen their bargaining position with Germany. Russia, however, will not take any initiative to disturb the main process of the far-reaching understanding which the two countries entered last spring and summer. All our information goes to show that there is no ground whatever to the view that Russia will start a great Britain in a war against Germany. What Germany may do after on a quite another matter is Imperial Policy Group memorandum.

Cultural Calculation. — Experts in the highest mathematics must find in the German official communiqués something after their own heart. At the outset of the war, we had 15 battleships or battle cruisers. The Germans have only 12 of them, so that our strength in capital ships is now 1:1. To keep building with our mighty it will take a long time to get up to nothing. And we did yet — the complete absence of German commerce from the sea almost suggest that the Navy is up to something. — *The Observer.*

Heavier Air Attack Probable. — Nothing is to be gained by buying ourselves up with false hopes that the enemy will not be able to maintain the present pressure of air attacks much longer. The enemy is already determined to increase it. Germany has not yet had to turn back, and having the go hard at some by the way, stop now. The moral effect of the neutrals would be tremendous if the attack were called off. On Sunday, August 11, the first day of the attacks on England, 66 enemy planes were shot down for the loss of 24 British pilots — 2:1. On Monday 62 German machines were shot down for the loss of 12 of our pilots — 5:1 to 1. On Thursday 180 German planes, 17 pilots, 10:3 to 1. The German Command is getting more and more on top. — *An correspondent. "The Sunday Times."*

Hitler's Probable Plan. — A few planes, said a French general some months ago, can never win a victory because they cannot exploit the destruction they cause. This is the typical British view, and moreover, it runs in complete harmony with the prevailing impulse of the German Command. It is therefore a useful pointer. It suggests that the mass raids are comparable to artillery preparations for the great onslaught. Events then might follow some such course as this: the raids will continue with such persistence that it will seem that they never cease by night or day until the Staff think they have produced some vital impression on the defence. Then the Germans will launch even heavier raids with parachutists and troop-carrying planes and attempt landings from the sea. They will open a cross channel bombardment, and, of course, attempt to create diversions in the Mediterranean and Africa. — *"Strategicus," in "The Spectator."*

to the War News

Opinions Epitomised. One is either a German or a Christian. You cannot be both. —Hitler, to Dr. Rauschaig.

One may sometimes find truth even in an affidavit. —Mr. P. D. Leake.

If this conflict lasts five years, as well it may. —The H. News-Letter.

For if the real war will begin when we take the offensive. —Mr. Anthony Eden, M.P.

The common people of Britain are giving inspiration to mankind. —New York Times.

We are running no debt to the extent of some £2,000,000,000 per year. —Mr. D. D. Leather.

Constant reiteration is one of Hitler's weapons which we should be well advised to use. —Mr. Stanley Upton.

Today, August 15, is De Gaulle's Day and Hitler is only in Madame Tussaud's. —A London newspaper's slogan placard.

The Italian push against Egypt must win through in three or four days or be a complete failure. —Major C. S. Jarvis.

It is not silence that defeats rumours or talk; it is statements in print in papers people can trust. —A. Isaacs, M.P.

During an air raid an old lady of 70 stayed to keep the canary company because it seemed nervous. —Mrs. J. Hughes Smith.

In a few months the male wearing shabby hats and bowlers will be regarded as very patriotic.

Starkley says so.

Hitler and Goebbels would have scouted the possibility of last week's performance by the B.B.C. before the reality happened. —Mr. J. E. Gasvins.

Almost every Government has been a victim to affliction—incompetent, unscrupulous, predatory, rapacious, and well-nigh intolerable. —Lord Newton.

Exmouth, with a population (including evacuees) of some 17,000, has contributed £34,036 to the War Savings Campaign, or about £20 per head. —Mr. E. R. Delderfield.

We should talk of England not as a fortress but as a base—the base of the British Empire, which will carry on the war offensively against all the Nazi cult. —Lord Trenchard.

The Germans hold more than a million and a half French prisoners, and will not hesitate to put to death selected and increasing numbers of these "hostages." —The Weekly Review.

There is no more imperialism now in the feeling between Great Britain and the Dominions than in the feeling between the States of the North American Union. —Mr. F. L. Lucas.

Chance acts of generosity produce results quite out of scale with what one would have expected; I know one man who through the kindness of an elder became a bishop. —Mr. Hilary Belloc.

Everyone who is making a bigger income than during the standard years taken for E.P.T. should pay 50% of the excess to the State before any of the other taxes are levied. —Sir J. Albery, M.P.

It is a curious paradox that just at the moment when half the hope is in full reaction against democratic self-government the East should be more than ever insistent in pressing forward to it. —Mr. J. A. Spender.

Not only a free Press, but a widely distributed Press is a vital factor, particularly today, in the dissemination of information and the maintenance of public morale. —The Chancellor of the Exchequer.

British opinion will be sympathetic to the suggestion that the United States should lease naval and air bases from Great Britain, but there is the question of bartering any of Britain's colonial possessions. —The Sunday Times.

Those who can afford to put out side till for every German plane shot down over Great Britain and invest the proceeds in Defence Bonds or lend them free to the Exchequer for the duration of the war. —Mr. H. O. Crosse.

Seagulls are England's best intelligence service. For my planes may fly so high that they can hardly be heard. But the birds know. When the Germans come over the birds go out to sea. When the Germans go home the birds come back. —Mr. Robert Casey.

Each German company has its pen-talker, who interminably flings into the ears of the men that England is Jew-ridden, a cesspool of international capitalists and Communists, a Moloch who wants the world so that she can devour it for herself. —The Times.

In the last year for which vital statistics for Germany are available (1936) there were 102,701 illegitimate births out of a total of 1,312,033. So a very large proportion of the German people cannot possibly be complete particulars of their racial purity. —Mr. C. L. Nordon.

With one exception there is no evidence whatever that any vitamin causes the slightest harm if given in doses hundreds or thousands of times greater than would normally be present in food. —Professor J. C. Drummond.

The excess profit tax should be made 85% instead of 100% and excess earnings should be taxed on the same basis. Reduction of E.P.T. is necessary in equity to all concerned and as a vital national measure for the maintenance of the reserves of the Empire. —Mr. S. W. Alexander, in The Evening Standard.

Until complete air ascendancy has been gained over the enemy it would be suicidal to our trained personnel to launch on unlimited day bombing offensive for the very reason of becoming increasingly vulnerable as the power of the fighter increases. —Air Commodore P. F. M. T. Jones.

Thinkers, writers, journalists and expert professional men find openings as are available to them in the Home Guard or in civil defence work far more to be desired than the more salubrious conditions they would be able to give the present time. —Mr. Basil Burgess, M.P.

The British means the white man, someone who is absolutely and decently humane, unvarnished and decent, all qualities despised by Germany. No black savage would be capable of some of the deeds which the German of to-day takes a pride in perpetrating. —Mr. Philip Campbell Evans.

Six years of Nazi rule in the Third Reich has resulted in an increased death rate, a falling birth rate, a declining fecundity, a rising criminality, an increase in pickets, drunkenness, venereal disease, tuberculosis, food poisoning and a bloubling of mental disease. —P. Gumpert, in Heil England.

Twenty-four hour all-weather bombing of Germany is essential for domination of the air. The most experienced high speed military aircraft designer in Great Britain put forward at the beginning of the war a design for an all-weather bomber capable of 300 m.p.h. with big load and range. —Air correspondent of The Observer.

All the iron mines in Malaya are owned and operated by Japanese and last year produced some 2,500,000 tons of high-grade iron ore, which was exported to Japan. It was nearly 50% of the total iron ore imports. Japanese investments in Malaya are estimated at £20,000,000. —Times, Singapore correspondent.

NYASALAND

Mr. W. H. S. Wright has been appointed a District Magistrate for the Mingo District, Uganda.

Commander Strickland has been elected to the board of the Kenya Pyrethrum Growers' Association.

Mr. H. M. Grant is now District Commissioner at Wajir, in the Northern Frontier District of Kenya.

Lady Mackenzie-Kennedy, wife of the Governor of Nyasaland, has arrived in the Protectorate from England.

Mr. A. R. Keenan, who formerly served for many years in Northern Rhodesia, has left the Service, and is now in Nyasaland.

C. T. Loram, who was a member of the Phelps Stokes Education Commission for United East Africa in 1923, has died in London.

Dr. G. E. Strahan, who has died suddenly in London at the age of 40, won the D.S.C. for service on "O" shipping during the last war.

Mr. J. W. Downie, the well-known Southern Rhodesian public man, who has been seriously ill, recently had the benefit of blood-transfusions.

Sir Geoffrey Northcote, Governor of Hong Kong, who served for years in East Africa and Northern Rhodesia, broadcast on Tuesday evening on British Colonial policy.

Mr. L. St. Clair Grondona urged price stabilization of primary products as a basis for post-war reconstruction in an address last week to the Royal Empire Society.

Mr. G. P. Saben, former secretary to the Kenya Coffee Board, is in charge of the new office opened in Kampala by Messrs. J. A. Matheson & Co. (East Africa), Ltd.

Mr. H. E. Wilson, M.L.C., the well-known Nyasaland barrister, and Mr. W. D. Morgan, the Blantyre solicitor, have entered into partnership under the style of Wilson and Morgan.

Mr. C. E. Mortimer, Commissioner for Local Government, Lands and Settlement in Kenya, who took a trip to Ceylon after his serious illness, has returned to Nairobi fully restored to health.

Captain Edward de Las Casas, The Rifle Brigade, and Denise Katharine, younger daughter of Colonel M. F. Mason, D.S.O., of Mweiga, Kenya, and Mrs. Mason, were recently married at Nairobi.

Captain A. J. W. Hornby, Assistant Director of Agriculture in Nyasaland, has taken up an appointment in Portuguese East Africa. He had served in Nyasaland for 20 years.

The death is announced of Mrs. W. D. Davidson Houston, wife of Colonel Davidson Houston, who was Chief Secretary to the Government of Nyasaland from 1927 until his retirement from the Colonial Service in 1930.

Mr. T. R. Jenkinson, whose appointment as Postmaster General of Nyasaland has just been gazetted, joined the Northern Rhodesia Postal Service in 1914, and has for the past year been acting P.M.O. of that country.

Sir Armande Wadia, until recently Chief Secretary of Kenya, is now assisting his brother, Major A. G. Wadia, the archaeologist, in salvaging objects of archaeological interest discovered at the trenches are being dug in the country.

Mr. Justice Feetham, who is well remembered in Kenya as Chairman of the Mombasa Port Commission, has been appointed Chairman of the Governor General's Board set up in South Africa to centralise gifts for purposes.

Mr. G. Stokes, who left from the Northern Administration a couple of years ago after 15 years' service, latterly as Provincial Commissioner, is now re-joined the service, and has been posted to his former station.

When Mr. Eden, Secretary of State for War, inspected Abyssinia in South-Western England last week-end, he was accompanied by his permanent private secretary, Colonel C. P. Poinsonby, M.C., Chairman of the Joint East African Board.

Mrs. C. T. Carbutt, who died recently in Southern Rhodesia, had lived in the Colonies for 35 years. She was an active social worker in many spheres, and an exceptionally talented amateur pianist. Her husband was formerly Secretary for Native Affairs.

Mr. Harry Trauring Tomson, who recently lost his life at sea, was the Mayor of Rhodesia and the Government's published in the mid of the century. In the early years following the outbreak of the war, he wrote a great deal about the country in English publications, particularly the *Review*.

The medal of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire, lately awarded to Sir Stevenson Hamilton, was at the Kruger National Park, was last week handed to Mrs. W. D. Waterman, South African High Commissioner in London, on transmission to South Africa. In making the presentation, Mr. H. G. Maurice, Secretary of the Society, said that by thus honouring Colonel Stevenson Hamilton the Society was marking its appreciation of the work Sir Africa had done in the preservation of its fauna.

Sir Abe Bailey's Will Creation of an African Trust

£250,000, or a quarter of his estate, which, if successful, has been set aside by Sir Abe Bailey in the will, for the creation of a trust to assist the progress of the South African people, and the spirit of national unity in the membership of the British Commonwealth of Nations, so as to take a share among the people of the world, befitting their past history, of the resources with which our land is endowed.

Four-fifths of the income from the trust must be spent in Africa, but from the balance the trustees may foster Empire interests "outside that Continent." It is specially suggested that they should encourage the practical teaching of Afrikaans in English-speaking schools, promote Imperial travel among students, and help the Imperial Army. The income is expected to be spent mainly for the benefit of the people of British and Dutch stock, but non-European are not excluded.

The "Round Table," of which Sir Abe was a generous supporter, is to receive £1,000 annually for as long as the trust is considered desirable, and the balance of his promised gift to Chatham House is to be discharged on condition that the membership remains essentially British.

Though his interests were primarily South African, Sir Abe Bailey was largely concerned with mining, landholding, and farming in the Rhodesias. He was Chairman or a director of many well-known companies, including Union and Rhodesian Mining and Finance Company, Rezende Mines, Sherwood Steel, Gold Mining Co., Africa & European Investment Co., African Chrome Mines, East & West Gold Mining Co., London and Rhodesian Mining, The Gold, and the Rhodesian Chrome & Asbestos Co.

Big Game in Uganda

MODESTY is the keynote to the always interesting and amusing report of the Game Warden of Uganda and once more Captain Pittman includes stories of the dogged courage of his native game guards and the efforts to keep elephants and other animals in the place outside the cultivated areas.

Captain Samaki's report on the elephant situation is satisfactory everywhere, and in many parts of the country which used to be periodically battered by the great beasts, the inhabitants have already forgotten their past woes. In fact his zeal and enthusiasm on their behalf were somewhat checked when, on arrival in a part of Uganda which is still comparatively recently open to the extent of a habitable area, the local inhabitants confronted him with a compromising ultimatum. In advance of the season for each elephant killed, or no guides and no information.

An outstanding game guard, Soweli Mpyaka, while following a herd unexpectedly encountered in dense bush a cow which had recently calved. The attack was so sudden that he had not time to raise the rifle to his shoulder before he was struck and killed.

In the late afternoon two elephants were found dead at the bottom of the rapids. It is believed that they must have been carried away while swimming and swept through the rapids and drowned. In the Masadi an elephant was found dead. In addition to the dead elephant a huge crocodile was found in the river, and proceeded to devour the elephant's tusks for over two feet. It was the broken tip of a tusk which had been fighting.

The chief of the Masadi, when wheeling his cycle down a road, became aware that an elephant was approaching. Suddenly his cycle was whirled off the ground. He pointed it to pieces.

A game guard's one arm was shattered by a professional hunter. The ends of the tusks of a dead elephant were found.

A man-eating lion was shot in a day. A trail was laid and found the victim in a dense bush. There he eventually gave the very creditable performance. The lion was in the man's hands by preference. He could make use of a road bridge as the tempting bait. The lion within five yards of the man, and skillfully avoided the gun the chance of a shot.

Buffalo are on the increase in the district. A herd totaling 200 was seen near Phin. The year in Ankole resulted in a decrease in their numbers. In the district, three men were killed.

Another mammal which continues to increase rapidly is the hippopotamus. Wherever it is found in the vicinity of cultivation it is a constant source of complaint. In the Masaka district game guards destroyed 21 marauding hippos.

At one time an adult hippo used to graze on the shore near Entebbe well before dusk. As it did not

(Concluded at foot of next column)

Questions in Parliament

In the House of Commons last week Mr. Greenford asked whether the draft of a Native Land Bill from Nyasaland to other territories continued, whether consideration had been given to the social and economic results, what arrangements for recruitment existed with South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, how many Africans were transferred each year, and whether statistics were available of the number of Natives who returned to the Protectorate at the average period of their absence in the past three years.

Mr. George Hall, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied that Nyasaland's supply of labour usually exceeded its own requirements and so far as he was aware there had been no limitation on the number of Natives leaving for employment in other territories. Labour migration was under constant review with particular regard to its effect on social and economic welfare. It was continually aimed to secure that the Native should be free to work as he wished, either as an individual or under contract to the Protectorate, or as a wage-earner in Nyasaland or beyond its borders, subject to statutory safeguards of conditions of employment.

Recruitment of Natives for South Africa was governed by an arrangement with the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association Ltd., with which it had been agreed that up to 28,500 Nyasaland Natives might be allowed to work on the Rand at any one time. An agreement was signed in 1937 between the Governments of Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland to provide for the control of the flow of labour between those countries, including medical examination of migrants, the issue of identity certificates, the provision of rest camps, dispensation, etc. Recruiting in Nyasaland was in accordance with the International Labour Convention. Since November 1937 an administrative officer had been stationed in Salisbury as Nyasaland Labour Officer, and an officer also watched the interests of Nyasaland Natives on the Rand. These officers formed part of the staff of the Nyasaland Labour Department.

Labour Migration from Nyasaland

Last year 9,061 Nyasaland Natives emigrated to South Africa, and 11,877 returned during that year. The number who emigrated to Southern Rhodesia was 28,496; 26,377 returned from that Colony. On the Rand mines the worker normally remained about 12 months and then returned home for a rest. A provision of the Salisbury agreement was that emigrant Natives in general should return to their homes after working in Southern Rhodesia for an economic period not exceeding two years.

Mr. Jones asked which Native political associations in Kenya had been declared illegal; whether they were considered subversive; and what evidence existed in support of that view.

Mr. Hall replied that in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Kenya Code, the Government of Kenya in Council had declared the Kenyan Central Association (1933), the Ukamba Farmers Association, and the Luta Hills Association to be subversive and dangerous to the peace and government of the Colony. A report was received from the Government of Kenya that

damage, it was left uncoloured. Its extraordinary behaviour in a populous locality was attributed to blindness.

Another hippopotamus, mainly bright pink in colour, was seen in the Nile several miles downstream from the Murchison Falls. It is described as presenting a truly revolting spectacle when ashore in daylight. The head and parts of the body were sparsely mottled liver colour, the curious coloration being evidently due to absence of the necessary pigment.

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Big Game in Uganda

MODESTY is the keynote to the always interesting annual report of the Game Warden of Uganda, and since the 1934-35 season includes stories of the dogged courage of his native game guards and their efforts to keep elephants and other mammals in their haunts outside the cultivated areas.

Captain Samaki Samon reports the elephant situation to be satisfactory everywhere, indeed in many parts of the country which used to be periodically battered by the great beasts the inhabitants have already forgotten their past woes. Even his zeal and enthusiasm on their behalf were somewhat checked when, on arrival in a part of Buganda which was until comparatively recently notorious for the extent of elephant damage, the local inhabitants confronted him with an uncompromising ultimatum: 15s. in advance and 5s. a head for each elephant killed, or no guides and no information.

An outstanding game guard, Seweti Musoke, while following a herd unexpectedly encountered in dense bush a cow which had recently calved. The attack was so sudden that he had not time to raise the rifle to his shoulder before he was caught and killed.

In the Nile two elephants were found dead at the bottom of the Fofa rapids. It is believed that they must have been carried away while drinking and swept through the rapids and drowned. In West Uadi an elephant was found dead. In addition to a bullet wound frontally in the head, he had a huge gash starting in front of one shoulder, almost to the chest, and proceeding obliquely downwards and inwards for over two feet. At the bottom of the wound was the broken tip of a tusk of the elephant with whom he had been fighting.

Elephant Grabs a Bicycle

The Chief of Obongi, West Uadi, when wheeling his cycle along a track one night about 10 o'clock, became aware that elephants were close to him. Suddenly his cycle was whipped out of his hands and smashed on the ground. He crawled away and left an elephant pawing it to pieces.

Uganda's one and only non-European holder of a professional hunter's licence met a violet death on the end of the tusk of a bull elephant which his client had wounded.

A man-eating lion which had killed five people in 14 days was shot in Ankole by a game guard who followed a trail at dawn after a man had been carried off, and found the victim's legs on the edge of a patch of dense bush. Three hours of vain and arduous search eventually gave the avenger the opportunity to bring a very creditable performance to a successful conclusion. The lion was in magnificent condition, and a man-eater by preference. He contemptuously and unhesitatingly made use of a road bridge across the river, and ignored the tempting baits lured for his downfall. The night on which he took his last human victim he passed within five yards of a bullock left out for him, and skilfully avoided the game guard's watch without offering the chance of a shot.

—Buffalo are on the increase, and in the West Nile district a herd totalling about 2000 was seen near Rhino Camp. Mr. Fa G. Banko spent the first few months of the year in Ankole in an anti-buffalo campaign, which resulted in an appreciable decrease in their numbers. In Toro buffalo killed three men.

Another mammal which continues to increase notably is the hippopotamus. Wherever it occurs in the vicinity of cultivation it is a constant source of complaint. In the Masaka district game guards destroyed 21 marauding hippos.

At one time an adult hippo, used to graze on the shore near Entebbe well before dusk. As it did no

Questions in Parliament

In the House of Commons last week Sir George Jones asked whether the drainage of Native manhood from Nyasaland to other territories continued, whether consideration had been given to the social and economic effects, what arrangements for recruitment existed with South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, how many Africans were transferred each year, and whether statistics were available of the number of Natives who returned to the Protectorate and the average period of their absence in the past three years.

Mr. George Hall, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied that Nyasaland's supply of labour greatly exceeded its own requirements, and so far as he was aware there had been no diminution in the number of Natives leaving for employment in other territories. Labour migration was under constant review, with particular regard to its effect on social and economic welfare. The Government aimed to secure that the Native should be free to work as he wished, either as an individual producer within the Protectorate or as a wage-earner in Nyasaland or beyond its borders, subject to statutory safeguards of conditions of employment.

Recruitment of Natives for South Africa was governed by an arrangement with the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, Ltd., with which it had been agreed that up to 8,500 Nyasaland Natives might be allowed to work on the Rand at any one time. An agreement was signed in 1937 between the Governments of Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland to provide for the control of the flow of labour between these countries, including medical examination of migrants, the issue of identity certificates, the provision of rest camps, dispensaries, etc. Recruiting in Nyasaland was in accordance with the International Labour Convention. Since November 1937, an administrative officer had been stationed in Salisbury as Nyasaland Labour Officer, and an officer also watched the interests of Nyasaland Natives on the Rand. These officers formed part of the staff of the Nyasaland Labour Department.

Labour Migration from Nyasaland

Last year 9,061 Nyasaland Natives emigrated to South Africa, and 11,847 returned during that year. The number who emigrated to Southern Rhodesia was 28,408, 26,379 returned from that Colony. On the Rand mines the worker normally remained about 12 months and then returned home for a rest. A provision of the Salisbury agreement was that emigrant Natives in general should return to their homes after working in Southern Rhodesia for an economic period, not exceeding two years.

Mr. Jones asked which Native political associations in Kenya had been declared illegal, whether they were considered subversive, and what evidence existed in support of that view.

Mr. Hall replied that, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the Penal Code, the Governor of Kenya in Council had declared the Kikuyu Central Association (1935), the Ukamba Members Association, and the Teita Hills Association to be societies inimical to the good government of the Colony. A list of names awaited from the Governor.

damage, it was felt unprotected. Its extraordinary behaviour in a populous locality was attributed to blindness.

Another hippopotamus, mainly bright pink in colour, was seen in the Nile several miles downstream from the Murchison Falls. It is described as presenting a truly revolting spectacle when afloat in daylight. The head and parts of the body were sparsely mottled with colour, the curious coloration being evidently due to absence of the necessary pigment.

The Rest of the War News

Continued from Page 959

A gift of 500 sides of best quality bacon from Neill's Sausage Factory, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, has been accepted by the Ministry of Food.

£1,000 was recently raised for war charities by the Jinhua.

Mr. J. E. Lean, of Subukia, has suggested that the Government of Kenya should for one period of the year increase the rates of income tax applicable to its citizens to those operating in the U.K. and pay to Great Britain the difference between the present Kenya and British rates.

The Governor of Nyasaland has suggested that the various collections being made in that country should be merged in a Win the War Fund.

Narivasha residents subscribed £1,225 last month for the purchase of three ambulances, one for presentation to the War Office, and two for presentation to the Government of Kenya, one each for the use of European and African troops.

The Tanganyika Ginnees Association has handed the Tanganyika Government a cheque for £2,000 representing a loan free of interest to the British Government for the duration of the war.

Shabani Mine Club raised £435 by a fete for the Speed the Planes Fund and the Mayor of Oyo Oyo's Fund for Aeroplanes has received £1,672.

Rhodesians Eager to Serve

Two further battalions of the Northern Rhodesia Regiments are being recruited. It is also announced that 20% of the officials in that Province are now serving with the Forces.

Ex-Servicemen in Southern Rhodesia over the age of 16 have been organised as a special reserve by the British Empire Service League, and attached to the 2nd Battalion the Rhodesia Regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. ... of mounted volunteers, organised on Yeomanry lines, has also been formed in the Colony by horse-owners.

There has been a fine response to an appeal by the Mechanised Transport Corps for women drivers for a unit of ambulances to be sent to Kenya. Thirty ambulances are to be shipped direct to the Colony from America. The drivers selected will have a fortnight's training in camp, beginning next week. The South African Government is to pay the wages, and in East Africa the drivers will receive the pay of South African privates (6s. 6d. a day) plus allowances for ration and billeting.

A Bill for the Legislative Council providing that persons in the service by a Government shall count as privates at full pay for the purposes of a Colonial pension.

Sir John M. Bailey, who has inherited the baronetcy on the death of his father, Sir Abe Bailey, serving in the Grenadier Guards.

The Earl of Eglinton has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Kenya Regiment.

Mr. N. R. Tanner, of Salisbury, is now commissioned in the Royal Engineers. Mr. R. H. M. Muro, also of Salisbury, is serving with the R.A.F.

Miss Meredith Chapman, of Salisbury, is now in the service of her mother, Lady Chapman, in Southern Rhodesia as an officer in the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

Casualties

Flying Officer Brian Elwyn Cross, who has been killed in action at the age of 21, the fifth son of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Moore, of Charlesworth, Lancaster, and a brother of Mr. G. P. Cross, formerly pilot-in-command of the Flying Club of Northern Rhodesia.

Group Captain ... Moggs Davis, A.F.C., A.M., and Acting Squadron Leader ... both of whom had served in the Middle East Campaign, have flown extensively in East Africa, and reported to have died of wounds.

The Siege of Moyale

Further details are now available of the capture of Moyale. They have been made public by a Senior African official on duty in Kenya, who said ...

Lieutenant ... du Toit, whose home was originally in the Union, but who is now an officer in the King's African Rifles, held in the Italian hands eventually surrounded the tiny square-towered fort and held up the Italian relief force marching to the aid of the besieged garrison. When the water supply in the fort running low, the situation of the defenders becoming serious, the officers, including Lieutenant du Toit, and the ... agreed to a plan to evacuate. The spirit of the men was magnificent. They were all determined not to surrender.

Early in the evening of July 14, Lieutenant du Toit crept out of the fort and cut a path through five rows of double-barbed wire. The 200 officers and men then took off their boots and slipped out of the gate inconspicuously. In single file they crept past the Italian machine-gun posts, whose occupants could be heard talking. In this way, without raising the slightest suspicion, the entire Moyale garrison passed through the Italian lines in an undisturbed manner. When the contact with the relief force, Lieutenant ... and that the fort were determined, they were ... down fighting and not surrender.

The Officer Commanding in East Africa has described the withdrawal as one of the finest things in the history of the King's African Rifles.

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COMPANY STATEMENTS

Nyasaland Railways, Ltd.**Underproduction of Cotton**

MR. W. M. CODRINGTON'S ADDRESS

The annual general meeting of Nyasaland Railways Limited, was held on Thursday, August 15, at the registered office, 3, Thames House, Queen Street Place, London, E.C. 3.

Mr. W. M. Codrington, M.C., the Chairman, presided.

The statement by the Chairman, from which the following is extracted, had been circulated to shareholders before the meeting:—

The Accounts for 1939

The accounts for 1939 call for little comment from the excess of gross receipts over working expenses amounted to £2,735 as compared with £3,826 for the previous year, but it was only possible for us to put to reserve for renewals account for 1939 the sum of £1,324, compared with £28,458 in the previous year. This was due to the fact that very greatly increased provision had to be made for taxation.

In the extracts from the general manager's report which accompany the accounts, you will find details of the year's working, which included the completion of the repairs to the bridge over the Shire River (the damage to which I reported to you at our meeting last year), thus enabling trains to cross without uncoupling. Slight interruptions to traffic, owing to washaways in the early part of the current year, were successfully dealt with, but we have recently been informed by cable that the foundations of the Chimmo Bridge had been affected by heavy scour. It will not be possible to assess the extent of the damage done until we receive further details, but the general manager has just informed us that he is now able to land shunt wagons loaded up to 27 tons cross the bridge so that goods traffic can now flow without interruption or reduction of load.

The latest news we have received as to prospects for the current year indicate that whilst the tonnage of tobacco and tea should show an improvement on last year, the cotton crop is unlikely to show more than a slight increase over the tonnage of last year. On the other hand, owing to conditions arising out of the war, import traffics are likely to show a decrease, and it seems probable that results this year will be less satisfactory than of the previous year.

At a time when the production of cotton within the Empire is of such importance from the point of view of economising our dollar resources, it is indeed sad that Nyasaland's contribution cannot be on a larger scale.

The Colonial Development Act

As a matter for satisfaction that, despite the difficult conditions created by the war, there was passed in the House of Parliament in July of this year the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, which is based on the Government of Policy on Colonial Development and Welfare, issued by the Government in February last, it is a pleasure to announce that the Government intend to be expended on a Colony need no longer be strictly limited by the revenue of that Colony. On the Home Government will, in each of the next ten years, give to the Colonies financial assistance up to a maximum of £5,000,000.

This assistance will be available not only for capital expenditure (as was the case with the Colonial Development Fund) up to its maximum of £5,000,000 a year, but also for the maintenance of important works and services. It is a pleasure that Lord Lloyd, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has pointed out that in the

present circumstances it will not be possible to make any substantial progress under the new policy, and that assistance for the present must be confined to urgent purposes and for schemes that can be carried out from local resources of personnel and materials. None the less the Act is a great advance towards the development of the Colonies, and Nyasaland will undoubtedly share in the benefits to be derived from it.

Nyasaland's Debt to the Treasury

The Act also provides for the extinction of Nyasaland's debt to the Treasury in respect of advances to enable the Government of Nyasaland to meet its liabilities arising out of the Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee, amounting to £1,255,021. The Royal Commission, presided over by Lord Bledisloe, which visited Nyasaland and the Rhodesias, recommended that in order that a final settlement of the Nyasaland debt should be made not only should the Nyasaland Government's debt to the Treasury in respect of the Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee be extinguished, but also that the 6% debentures of the Trans-Zambesia Railway, which are guaranteed by the Nyasaland Government, should be converted to a lower rate of interest, and that the Treasury should assume entire responsibility for the Nyasaland Government Guaranteed Loans. However, the extinction of debt provided for by the Act will be a great relief to Nyasaland's burden of indebtedness.

Meanwhile there is another direction in which the future prosperity of Nyasaland may be greatly affected. I have in mind the reference made by Mr. Hagart, in presiding at the annual general meeting of the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa, at Johannesburg, in April last, to the bauxite deposit in Nyasaland. What Mr. Hagart said is so important that I think I should quote to you his exact words, which were:—

The Manje Bauxite Deposit

Some 18 months ago your Corporation obtained from the Nyasaland Government conclusive prospecting rights over a bauxite deposit situated at about 6,000 feet above sea level, on Manje Mountain, in the north-eastern corner of Nyasaland. Extensive prospecting work has been carried out on this deposit and detailed assaying of a large number of samples has been completed. The results of this work indicate that there is a commercial deposit of bauxite of upwards of 60,000,000 tons. The deposit compares very favourably in its composition with commercial deposits of bauxite in other parts of the world, and our investigations show that there will be no difficulties in mining the deposit or in its treatment for the production of aluminium metal. One essential in the production of aluminium from bauxite is the availability of considerable quantities of cheap power, and for that reason an examination of the water-power possibilities of Nyasaland has been made.

It has been demonstrated that a substantial quantity of power can be developed at the Shire River at a reasonable capital cost per kilowatt generated. There are other problems to be solved before this venture can be proceeded with, and to advise us on the whole question we have engaged the services of an expert engineer from America, who is arriving in Johannesburg in about two months' time to report to us on the whole question.

It is too early yet for me to make any forecast in regard to the probable outcome of this venture, but I can say at this stage that all our investigations to date indicate that conditions are favourable for the establishment of an important aluminium industry in Nyasaland. The British South Africa Company are jointly interested with us in this venture.

Prosperity of the Country

The prosperity of Nyasaland has been entirely dependent upon the resources derived from its agricultural products, the value of which varies widely from year to year as conditions fluctuate on the world market. There is no need for me to stress to you the tremendous difference that would be possible in the future outlook for Nyasaland if the mineral deposits of bauxite were turned to account and an aluminium industry were established in the colony. This, however, is for the future, and for anything I am sorry to say there are very few signs of active steps being taken to increase agricultural production. I have already referred to the particular case of cotton.

The report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1939, were adopted unanimously.

Mr. W. M. Goddington, M.C., the General Director, was re-elected, and Messrs. Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. were re-appointed auditors of the company.

Schooling in S. Rhodesia

With the Southern Rhodesian Government have afforded to children from other British Colonies the same terms in their schools as for children in Southern Rhodesia, that is free tuition and a boarding fee reduced below cost by a Government subsidy. In present circumstances they feel unable to continue the arrangements and varying conditions have now been made for different territories. Free tuition will continue to be provided, but the boarding fee has been increased to approximately the actual cost.

Warrior's Control Handbook

A most useful handbook on malaria control, primarily intended to assist payments engaged in malaria control on estates and plantations, has been compiled by Dr. Robert Svensson, an assistant director of the Ross Institute. The Shell group of companies has generously defrayed the costs of publication, and stocks of the handbook are available at the principal overseas offices of the associated Companies. Distribution in the British Isles is being made through the Ross Institute from its emergency address, 29 Inglis Road, Ealing, London, W. 5.

New War Map

A useful war map of the Mediterranean and North Africa has been published by "The Daily Telegraph" Co. It embraces British Somaliland, Ethiopia as far south as Addis Ababa, and part of the Sudan. Most useful at the present stage of the war, it could be improved when the next report is made by the correction of certain place-names. For instance, Galsbat appears as Gallaba, Kurmuk as Kormak, etc. A little checking with modern maps of the Sudan and Ethiopia would eliminate these slight errors.

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PICKLE

S. Rhodesia's Steel Industry

Bombs for use by the Air Force in East Africa may shortly be manufactured in Southern Rhodesia. This was revealed recently by Mr. D. Macfarlane, M.P., in addressing the Salisbury Rotary Club on the progress made by the steel industry in the Colony during the past three years. The industry was also of value to the Air Force in other ways, for the greater part of the rolled steel used in the erection of aeroplane hangars for the new aerodrome scheme had been rolled at the Batawayo mills.

It was the intention of the Government and the company shortly to install a blast furnace at a cost of £30,000 which will establish works capable of producing steel from ore mined in the Colony. With the exception of 20% all the financial arrangements had been found within Southern Rhodesia.

Today the steel industry in the Colony provided work for 90 Europeans at standard wages and produced rolled steel and steel products to the value of £16,000 a month. It would be able to help to keep the mining industry going during the war and was manufacturing shoes and caps at a cost only a little more than that of the imported article. Steel balls for tube mills were also being made locally.

Southern Rhodesian Sales

Tobacco auctions in Salisbury during the week ended July 29th resulted in the following sales: 7,732 lbs. of fire-cured, at an average of 12.00d. per lb., and 13,673 lbs. of air-cured for 1939, at an average of 3.55d. per lb. Total sales of fire-cured sorts for the 13 weeks during which the sales have been held amount to 26,648,992 lbs., which have realised £1,456,842, or an average of 13.12d. per lb.

Nyasaland Tobacco Auctions

The Nyasaland Government representative in London announces that sales at the Nyasaland tobacco auctions, which closed on the 27th August 3, were as follows:—Fire-cured, 3,126,000 lbs. for Empire export, realised an average of 7.18d. per lb., while for local and foreign export 360,000 lbs. realised an average of 2.67d. per lb.; these figures compare with a total sale in 1939 of 2,924,000 lbs. for an average of 6.68d. per lb. Southern dark-fired sales amounted to 1,049,000 lbs., averaging 5.90d. per lb., against 1,263,000 lbs., averaging 5.79d. per lb. in 1939, while sales of Northern dark-fired reached 3,956,000 lbs. at an average of 5.33d. per lb., against 3,742,000 lbs., averaging 4.73d. per lb. in 1939. Sales of sun-air-cured amounted to 502,000 lbs., averaging 5.76d. per lb., against 850,000 lbs. at 4.11d. per lb. last year. In addition to the tobacco auctioned there were about 4,000,000 lbs. of dark tobacco grown by native tenants on private estates. This tobacco is exported without passing over the auction floor.

Thanks to Wood Preservatives

One modern tendency which will have an important bearing on tropical forestry, and will make our forests both more valuable and easier to manage, writes Mr. N. V. Brasnett, Conservator of Forests in Uganda, in the "Uganda Journal." It is the improvement in and cheapening of the price of wood preservatives, which is leading to a great increase in their use in the tropics. At present many timbers which grow in Africa are regarded as useless merely because they are highly susceptible to attacks by insects and fungi. Chemical preparations are available which will make these woods as durable as woods. When the use of preservatives becomes general in Uganda it will be possible to use a great deal of wood which is now regarded as useless, so as to gradually increase the timber output of our forests.

News Items in Brief

...we have four different missionary societies...
...in Tanganyika Territory...
...Central Line Sisal Estates Ltd., state that output during July amounted to 351 tons.

Sisal beans exported from Tanganyika in 1939 were valued at £3,111, against £2,045 in 1938.

Bulawayo's new Town and Municipal Offices are to be formally opened on September 4.

The Likanga tin factory in Nyasaland, belonging to Ruo Estates Ltd., has been destroyed by fire.

Messrs. Campbell Brothers & Co., Ltd., have temporarily removed their office from the Park, Reigate, Surrey.

Two Africans were recently sentenced in Kampala to 18 months imprisonment each for attempting to sell to an Indian a machine bottle purporting to contain gold when in reality it contained brass shavings.

In the past six years the number of Indians who have taken out trading licences in the Nyirala district of Tanganyika has trebled, and in the last four years the number of Native licences has increased more than sevenfold.

Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co., who are interested in tea growing in East Africa, report net profits for the past year of £128,000 after providing for income and excess profits tax, against £127,955. The dividend is maintained at 10%.

The 10,000-acre ranch in the Maswa district of Tanganyika formerly owned by Meat Rations, is now being used for the controlled settlement of Indians. The balance is being reserved for possible Government stock farm.

The increasing popularity of Kenya coffee in this country is shown by the following figures, which show the consumption during the past five years: 1935, 104,113 cwt.; 1936, 107,922 cwt.; 1937, 116,525 cwt.; 1938, 122,211 cwt.; 1939, 132,357 cwt.

Speaking at the recent annual general meeting of Kenya Works, Ltd., Mr. Vivian Qury, who presided, said that between January 3 last, when the fifth deep-water berth was opened at Beira, and the end of March, 80% of the total traffic handled was dealt with at the five deep-water berths.

Messrs. Alexander Lawrie & Co., a merchant house with extensive East African interests, reports that in the year to June 30 last, after providing £2,250 against £18,000 for taxation, the net profit was £28,862 against £36,645. The final ordinary dividend is 9%, making 12% for the year.

Rhodesia British Trust, Ltd., announce the payment of a dividend on income tax for the year ended March 31. This compares with 10% for the preceding year. The company, which is controlled by the B.S.A. Company, owns the entire capital of Rhodesia Railways and the Shabani Railway Company.

The Northern Rhodesian Government is considering giving assistance to a parent resident in that country who has a desire to evacuate their children from the United Kingdom, but who are unable to meet the expense. Parents must satisfy the Government that they cannot afford to bring the children out, and that arrangements for the necessary housing and school arrangements for such in Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. J. G. Anderson, a leading figure in the Nairobi coffee market, did some pioneering work for Kenya coffee when he recently made a health trip to Australia. Having sent a consignment of coffee by sea, he made a return journey by air, and during his stay was able to persuade many houses to recommend the Kenya product. He also induced the two leading hotels in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to sell Kenya coffee.

Statements Worth Noting

Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken. — Proverbs iii., 24-26.

The U.M.C.A. area in Africa covers nearly five times the size of the British Isles. — Canon Cyril Hallé.

Every Somali is an aristocrat and incidentally a bit of a snob. — Mr. Gordon Welsh, in "The Evening Standard."

Never before about half the coffee-consuming world has been closed to coffee producers. — Messrs. Edm. Schmutz & Co.

I have now found a new place in war-time needs for the packing of pressed boarding for window production. — "The Statist."

A single plant of tobacco ("Nicotiana affinis") may succeed in setting 350,000 seeds. — Mr. H. E. Bates, in "The Spectator."

The world of the African is so limited that by the time he is 14 he has learned most of what it has to teach him. — Mr. Kenneth Bradley.

Leprosy is a disease of unhygienic villages, just as tuberculosis is a disease of unhygienic industrial centres. — Leprosy Review.

An excessively wet and sunless season is almost invariably more unfavourable to crop growth than an unusually dry one. — "Agriculture and Lands Report of Southern Rhodesia."

All the food for our sheep in the Southern Sudan has to be grown on the spot. The nearest shopping centre is at Khartoum, 300 miles away. — The Rev. F. J. Finch.

Since the outbreak of war the import of Indian goods into Eastern Africa has increased very considerably. — Mr. N. H. Ismail, Indian Government Trade Commissioner in East Africa.

The Forest Department of Kenya is greatly understaffed, with the result that it is impossible to maintain the existing forests in a proper state of productivity. — Mr. J. T. Todd, in "The National Review."

The use of a mosquito-sprayed pyrethrum spray has been proved to be highly toxic to mosquitoes, and at the same time is harmless to human beings. — Assistant Surgeon General C. L. Williams, U.S. Public Health Service.

There has been an astonishing growth of Christianity in Africa. In one district, for example, you will find 5,000 Christians where a generation ago there was only one convert. — Dean W. J. Wright, preaching in Canterbury Cathedral.

By subscribing to our "Speed the Planes" Fund we can all the more quickly dispose of any idea of the Nazis running their "Strengthen through Joy" trips to the Victoria Falls. Our strength is through joysticks. — A correspondent of "The Livingstone Mail."

The hillsides, while hillslopes can be terraced and cultivated in other climates, in Southern Rhodesia, with its torrential rains followed by months of drought, it is grass alone which will hold down soil on hillsides. — Southern Rhodesia Native Affairs Report.

Among the Nuer men are frequently addressed by names that refer to the form and colour of their favourite oxen; women take names from oxen and from the cows they milk; and a child usually takes his name from the bull-calf of his cow-he and his mother milk. — Dr. E. E. Evans-Pritchard, in "The Nuer."

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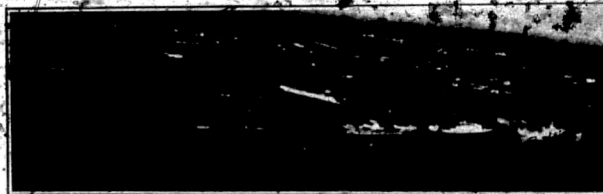
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

BRITISH SOMALILAND, which almost all the news and wireless commentators described as a considerable loss to the British Empire, is, in fact, a costly and unnecessary sacrifice. It is as likely to prove a desperate and dangerous trap, as now being dismissed by those self-same false prophets. As we refused to count the hazards of an Italian attack which, by the foreseeable use of heavy forces and modern equipment, occupied the whole country within a fortnight—so we decline to exaggerate its results from the British or the Italian standpoint. The genuine success, as we wrote last week, is of much more important psychological than strategically or morally—is a factor of the highest importance in war and in dealing with subject races.

Possession of the coast of British Somaliland, with its relatively small hinterland, can be of no particular physical advantage to the British so long as the Royal Navy commands the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden, and the Red Sea.

A Military Aden and the Red Sea Stocktaking

It is, of course, a mistake to suppose that the Italian and his advisers are calculating their uses of submarines in the Massawa, and elsewhere, could quickly deny

the use of British vessels, especially those engaged in reinforcing our armies in the Middle East; but those facile anticipations were quickly shattered by the destruction of most of the Italian under-water craft. Their bombers have been equally ineffective against our warships, and Aden is no more easily attacked from aerodromes in Somaliland than from Fairbairn airfields; indeed, the flight from Aden is shorter than from Berbera, and aerodromes and other bases are available at the Italian port, they would need to be transported to British territory. In the strictly military sense, then, nothing has been gained by the occupation of British Somaliland—certainly nothing comparable with the gain of the railway in French Somaliland.

That is not to say that we have not lost substantially by withdrawing from a Protectorate held for well over half a century. We cannot say whether there is truth in the assertion of the spokesman for the

Two Voices Out of Harmony

Pétain Government that there were no more than five thousand troops in British Somaliland, if so, the garrison had been seriously reduced in recent months. In any event, it would be foolish to underestimate the influence of the collapse of our French allies, which is not only because they were to protect our

right flank, but because still more important, they were in due time to provide a striking force against the Italians in Ethiopia, since the one way into that country was from Jibuti. When those plans foundered with the French submission, we had to be prepared with alternative, to evacuate Italian Somaliland or to seek to hold it. The latter course would have been unfeasible in this country and in Africa, but what had to be decided was that the decision would not be wrapped up in a few days. The Italian position was doomed and we should have been in a fortnight we have inevitably done. As for the Somalis the impression that we had covered only belatedly that the Italian was the superior party. Still more unfortunately, the spread of that belief that we cannot but act as a deterrent to their wishes, so that it is clearly part of our duty to forestall. Regarding of those plans, the inescapable consequence of the Italian occupation of British Somaliland and of British Somaliland in effect.

That it would be not an argument for the abandonment of the designs for the offensive, but for still wiser preparations and for the avoidance of unwarranted optimism. We continue to believe that the

The Penalty of Italy's position in East Africa and Precaution.

Africa is essentially un- soundly despite its appearance of strength, and that British Africa has the honourable opportunity to strike one of the first heavy blows at the Axis, which ought no longer to be allowed the initiative in a theatre of war in which we can mobilise such great forces, material and spiritual, to their undoing. The R.A.F. and the Navy have been magnificently imbued with the offensive spirit since Mussolini took the plunge, but on land we have had to start on the defensive because of past neglect to create, train and equip adequate forces for modern war. Even when the Empire was again at death-grasp with Germany officialdom was staggering with the facts, and men, white and black, who had to serve were turned away on the pretext that East Africa's main role must be on the economic front. Southern Rhodesia, much less bemused by a doctrine which left Italy out of account, set about raising a force which caused local criticism from the anti-linking, but which none regarded as too late now that the Empire

is virtually alone in resisting the barbarians. "Our few thousand Europeans would make no difference, and we need them to carry on the work of colonisation after the war," said the thoughtless folk, and most of the governments, anxious to continue administration as usual, were too prone to listen to such talk. Therefore the lesson taught twenty-five years ago—that the great contribution of our territories must be in Native regiments officered by Europeans of the right type. By now we could have had scores of battalions of first-class fighting troops wholly raised in East, Central and West Africa, and Somaliland, now denied to us as a recruiting ground, would have supplied splendid human material *ad libitum*.

The enemy's next important move in Eastern Africa is likely to be against the Sudan, either directly at Khartoum, the capital, or upon Atbara, the one great railway junction, or upon both vital points straight

Forestall them. The cessation of the The Duce's plans may make such moves feasible within a month. It is therefore highly important that the Italians in Kassala, Galabat, and other encampments within and near the frontier should be harried on every possible occasion from the air and from the ground in order to shake their confidence, deprive them of rest, and inflict losses of men and material. Heavy raiding can alone reduce the risk and the force of the invasion which is assuredly planned, and which will be difficult to check. It is admitted to develop the momentum upon which the enemy calculates as his best for success. Though his numbers be superior and his mechanised equipment formidable, those factors are not advantages for the moment, for both men and machines are immobilised by the rains. Soon, within a few weeks that advantage will have passed from us to the foe, this is clearly the time at which to inflict every possible punishment as an incidental result of which will be to neutralise the Abyssinian disappointment at the withdrawal from Somaliland. The Duce probably counts on continuing smashing blows against the Sudan in late September or early October. To upset his plans by forestalling them would evidently be best strategy.

52nd Week of the War

Heavy Air Attacks on Enemy in East Africa

Italians Have Now Lost At Least 80 Aircraft For 9 British

ALTHOUGH ENEMY AIRCRAFT in Ethiopia, East Africa and Somaliland have been repeatedly raided during the past week and hit based on hangars, the British communiques have played for safety by avoiding specific claims beyond the fact that damaged one Caproni bomber on the ground. One British aircraft was lost.

Our daily analysis shows that since Italy entered the war her air losses in East Africa have been a minimum of 24 planes shot down, one captured, 33 destroyed and 100 damaged on the ground, and four driven down out of control.

Assuming that half the enemy planes damaged on the ground are beyond repair, and ignoring those driven down out of control and all general and ambiguous statements, at least 80 Italian aircraft have been put out of action at the cost of nine British machines lost.

August 20.—The R.A.F. communique issued in Cairo said: "A P. aircraft successfully covered the British Somaliland aviation (which had taken place August 19). Bombers attacked the petrol dump at Diredawa, Abyssinia (about half-way between Diredawa and Gondar). The bombs dropped in the target area."

Exaggerated Italian Claims

The Italian statement was, of course, pitched on a note of bluff. It stated:

"Having routed the last enemy rearguard, Italian troops occupied Berbera, the capital of British Somaliland, at 7 P.M. on Monday. Before escaping in their ships the British set fire to part of the town. An entire company of the Camel Corps, well armed and equipped, presented itself to our command at Gergazze, surrendered, and handed over its arms.

At Galabat, on the Abyssinian frontier, an Italian battalion carried out a surprise attack on enemy formations, routing them and capturing munitions and horses, as well as prisoners.

Enemy air raids at Noghelli, Mogadishu, Barda, Merca, and Genale caused neither casualties nor any damage of importance.

August 21.—Lieutenant-General Alexander Wavell, C.O.C.-in-C., Middle East, who had just returned to Egypt from a flying visit to England, broadcast from Cairo, saying:

"We are at the crisis of the war—perhaps at the turning-point to victory. Make no mistake about it, we have a heavy task. We have a long and hard road still to tread, but the basic courage and toughness of our race is again responding in full measure to the call made upon it. We have sustained very grievous shocks, we may have to sustain others. But in this war, as in many before it, we shall win the last battle.

The R.A.F. Cairo communique said:

"On Tuesday our bombers attacked hangars and the railway station at Diredawa. All the bombs fell in the target area and a direct hit was scored on a hangar. One of our aircraft failed to return. An attack was made on Dessie aerodrome, the bombs hitting buildings in the compound. Our bombers carried out a low-level attack on railway buildings at Kassala, the track being hit.

French pilots co-operating with the R.A.F. made extensive reconnaissances over British Somaliland. The places visited included Berbera, Adwaya, Har Beisa, and Zeila.

Lead Set on Enemy Aerodrome

Nairobi messages say that South African aircraft had raided every aerodrome between Addis Ababa and Ethiopia, and the Indian Ocean, including Yava,

Maelli, Gudu, Jebel Margherita, Asmayu, and Adisun. Direct hits were reported on aircraft hangars and the Mega wireless station. No enemy fighters took off, and anti-aircraft fire was ineffective.

The Italians asserted that the population of "that was British Somaliland" were flocking to take the oath of allegiance to the Italian authorities; that Camel Corps and other troops were bringing their weapons and asking to be enrolled as Italian askari; that five Blenheim bombers damaged by Italian fighters, had been found; that another Blenheim had been brought down in flames at Diredawa; and that the many British raids on Ethiopia had caused insignificant damage, but had killed one woman and wounded five persons.

August 22.—Aircraft of the South African and Rhodesian squadrons carried out numerous offensive reconnaissances in Italian Somaliland. At Mogadishu direct hits were registered on the jerry and one hangar, on the wireless station, transport, and the administrative buildings, and at Merka one Caproni aircraft on the ground was damaged. The raid, in which many high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped, was described as the most successful made on Mogadishu.

August 23.—A telegram from Nairobi to "The Times" said:

"The greatest Somali trek made for many years is taking place in the Northern Frontier District of Kenya, and involves at least 50,000 men, women and children, together with 20,000 camels and many thousands of cattle and sheep.

The war area is being cleared of the civil population, and the Somali are moving to the Uaso Nyiro river, where there is a permanent supply of water. The Italian traders to the north of Garbatulla have also gone, and civilian life has ceased over the greater part of the province.

The purpose of the move is to afford adequate protection to the Somalis and to provide greater freedom for the military authorities. Thousands of Somali families are travelling by camel, with all their worldly goods crowded into tiny shelters of rainproof-matting which are stretched on wooden frames on the backs of the camels.

Australians in Action

The Australian Minister for the Navy announced that H.M.A.S. HOBART, which took part in the Somaliland operations, when she successfully shelled an Italian concentration at Zeila with a Walrus aeroplane, and assisted the shore defences in bombarding the Italian position from the sea, was one of the last ships to leave Berbera after destroying those parts of the town which had a military value. Three members of the HOBART'S crew are missing and are believed to have been killed in the battle of Tugargan Gap, to take part in which they landed with a three-pounder Hotchkiss gun on August 15. The gun crew fought most gallantly and contributed to the success of the withdrawal of the main British force.

August 24.—The Italian communique stated: "An attack was made by our bombing force on Khartoum. Damage was done to hangars, while several planes were started. All our planes returned safely.

The British report of the incident said: "On August 24 an ineffective raid was carried out on the outskirts of Khartoum by a single aircraft. There was one civilian casualty.

August 25.—British H.Q., Cairo, announced: "Enemy aircraft carried out indiscriminate bombing of the town of Omdurman in the Sudan. Three Sudanese children were killed and six other persons wounded."

August 26.—In air attacks on Madzhu direct hits were made on buildings and fires started, hangars were bombed and building demolished at Dessie, and direct hits were scored on targets at Bahat and Metemmah. Dessie aerodrome again raided. Reconnaissance over Italian East Africa were made by enemy pilots.

Undue Optimism in the Press

Under such headings as "Ethiopia on the Brink of Victory," many British newspapers have in the past week or so published statements of a super-optimistic character. Two may be cited as typical.

The "Daily Telegraph" said:—"Abyssinia is bordering on revolt, and constant outrages have caused such insecurity for the Italians that they have found it necessary to issue warnings to the tribal chieftains, according to a report from Cairo. Even in Addis Ababa, the capital, the position of the Italians is most insecure, and they never dare to leave the European town at night. Racial laws have been applied with the utmost severity. The Abyssinians, even chieftains, are not allowed to approach the Italians, and must not even walk on the same footpath."

Completely contradicting the final passages, but corroborating the suggestion of widespread disaffection, the "Daily Mail" correspondent in Cairo telegraphed:

"Abyssinia is on the brink of revolution against the Italian Army of Occupation, according to a well-placed eye-witness who contrived to leave Addis Ababa and has now arrived in Egypt. He states that Bomba Diowadi, former chief of police in Addis Ababa, has raised a well-armed force to fight the Italian troops stationed near the capital. In Addis Ababa itself, Italians dare not venture into the interior unless accompanied by strong armed forces. To secure the collaboration of certain chiefs, according to this witness, Italian officials have induced them to marry Italian girls, overlooking for the time being the Fascist racial laws. One prince who married an Italian is Ras Hure."

Casualties

First Lieut. Commander Cecil Stanley Bishop, now officially reported killed in the loss of H.M.S. GLORIOUS, served with the East Indies Squadron on H.M.S. BURNHAM from 1927 to 1930.

Squadron Leader R. E. Wilkinson, who has been killed in action, was formerly personal assistant to the A.O.C. Middle East, the Vice-Marshal Newall, and had served six times down in East Africa.

2nd Lieutenant G. K. N. Travaskis, of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment, is reported killed in action in Somaliland. He was 26 years of age.

2nd Lieutenant Raymond Austen Hodgson, Northern Rhodesia Regiment, has been killed in action in Somaliland.

The Northern Rhodesian Government has announced that seven Europeans from that territory had been killed in action in Somaliland and that four others reported missing were believed to have been killed. Details of African casualties are awaited.

Rhodesian D.F.C.

Flight Lieutenant C. B. Hull, who was born in 1914 in Shantari, Southern Rhodesia, was recently awarded the D.F.C. for shooting down four out of five enemy planes. The description of his exploit is: "After having shot down an enemy aircraft on May 24, 1940, the other two days later engaged five enemy aircraft single-handed; he shot down four of the enemy aircraft and damaged the fifth. The next day, despite heavy attack on the landing ground, he attacked enemy aircraft in greatly superior numbers until he was wounded and forced to retire."

Mr. David P. H. Klaser, chief officer of the DUNDEE CASTLE, and Mr. W. G. Shannon, second officer of the same ship, have been awarded the O.B.E.

and D.F.C. respectively for dangerous rescue work. The Dundee Castle is announcing the awards says that when H.M. Troopship LANCAFRIDE was sunk by a German U-boat off St. Nazaire, life work was done by Chief Officer SPRUK CASTLE'S two lifeboats, under Chief Officer Klaser and Second Officer Shannon who rescued over 120 men. Oil on the surface of the water made rescue work very dangerous, but the crew made repeated trips with survivors of the LANCAFRIDE in lifeboats which were standing by. After these gallant and successful efforts the DUNDEE CASTLE'S boats were the last to leave the scene.

Captain Britter is the first South African pilot to have been shot down in East Africa.

Mr. W. Mitchell has been promoted captain in the Auxiliary Air Unit of the Kenya Defence Force. Lieutenants R. Francis and Lieutenant A. Watts Williams have also been promoted to the same ranks, and Lieutenants R. Siddham Green has been promoted lieutenant. Commissions have been granted to Staff Sergeant A. G. Hubbard and J. B. Leibhardt, and Pilot Sergeant A. L. Levey, G. W. H. Reynolds, R. F. B. Dore, and K. Graham Bell.

Mr. F. L. Meeson, of Kitale, has joined the R.A.F. Four employees of the Mufutika copper mine recently left Northern Rhodesia by car for Kenya to join the Forces. They are Messrs. S. M. Guinness, A. Everton, and two brothers named Wilde.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Smythman, of Zomba, have four sons and a son-in-law serving with the Forces in East Africa.

Gifts for War Purposes

Mr. J. McAllister Smith, of the Ince Mine, Gatoona, Southern Rhodesia, has presented the Government with a second cheque for £100 for the purchase of a training aircraft under the Empire Air Training Scheme.

A motor ambulance for the Rhodesian Forces serving in East Africa has been presented by two Salisbury business men, Messrs. J. and W. G. G. G. G.

Sir John Maybin, Governor of Northern Rhodesia, has given £250 to the Speed the Planes Fund.

The B.S.A. Company has presented a mobile headquarters vehicle for the Rhodesian Forces. It is fitted with wireless and other field equipment.

The Nicola Golf Club recently raised £25 for war funds at an entertainment evening.

The Rhodesia Angling Society has given £20 to provide comforts for Southern Rhodesian troops.

A further £7,500 has been remitted to the Imperial Government from Tanganyika towards the cost of the war. A loan of £200, free of interest, has been sent by the Tanganyika Gineries Association.

Southern Rhodesian tobacco growers are making generous contributions towards the cost of the war.

Cigarettes fund stands at £1,395; an aeroplane and munitions fund amounts to £2,714; and Umvukwe farmers have sent £1,624. With these sums, and an amount from the levy fund, the Rhodesian Tobacco Association is making a first contribution of £7,500 to the Imperial Government. Cigarettes are sent by the association to Rhodesian troops serving in East Africa, and £1,000 has been forwarded in purchase of Rhodesian cigarettes for the Navy.

Zanzibar has sent to the Lord Mayor's Fund a further installment of £300 raised by the Parsee Amateur Dramatic Society, the Young Arts Union, and the Comorian Community.

Uganda's Generosity

The Uganda War Charities Fund, which was closed at the end of June, has been succeeded by an Uganda War Fund, which was headed by the contribution of £100,000 from the Uganda Government. Other early subscriptions were £10,000 from H. E. the Kabaka of Buganda, £100 from Sir Philip Mitchell, and £10 from Lady Mitchell. The Governor has appointed the Hon.

Background to the

U. S. Victory. Youth of Africa are great. They are awaiting that man of leadership which this country and the United States alone can give. The former employee of the great chemical firm should see himself fighting this war in order that he may have a chance of becoming the great scientist who will clear the African swamps and help to bring civilization to an ancient and mysterious continent, the natural wealth of which is beyond the dreams of the most imaginative. The firm-hand should see himself at work in order to make it possible for him to become the proprietor of broad acres in the far East, building a fortune and a name which will endure for centuries, creating a tradition of which some great new province will one day be justly proud. But this vision is lacking. The story of what the Empire means to the individual is rarely told. Many of the kids now performing incredible feats of heroism, as they make their nightly trips deep into enemy territory and stirring in them a spirit of leadership which must not be smothered when the war is over. It would be perilous indeed, if having stirred this generation to high leadership, our post-war policy led to their total disillusionment. They must return to a wide field in which their abilities can be fully used. The biggest danger of all is that the political leadership will fall into the hands of those who pay lip-service to all this, and, thus gaining power, introduce a system utterly foreign to our conception and tradition. The doctrinaire socialist preaches that after the war there must be some thing like a distribution of private wealth and for want of a better policy his argument is accepted by many. Few people now really believe in it. Not all our private wealth is distributed a dozen times over, will solve the problem of production and distribution. The problem is how to develop the almost limitless resources of an Empire the consumptive capacity of which is immeasurable. Youth know that we need to find means, not of restoring old interests, but of developing new resources and new wealth. What is vitally necessary is an intellectual general staff which, during the war, is working out means whereby these emergency facilities can be switched over for peacetime purposes. A determined effort to find a solution to these problems while the war is still being fought, will do as much as anything else to create that fighting spirit so vital for victory. Imperial Policy Group memorandum.

Britain Not Beleaguered.

The picturesque simile of Britain as a beleaguered fortress is one of the unhappiest and most erroneous thoughts that could possibly be spread among us. The beleaguered fortress does not receive every week some 1,500 to 1,700 shiploads of new provisions, stores and munitions; it does not dispatch from its garrison reinforcements and freshly built units to the aid of its operations in distant fields, as we are doing. It is not in hourly communications with seven-eighths of the outside world, as we are. We are not beleaguered; we are working on exterior lines, free to move as and when we will to any theatre of war. We have too long thought of the sea as a moat defensive to a base. To him who has the mastery of it the sea is a vast manufacturing ground where he could, deploy his forces in freedom, preparatory to offensive at any point and at his own selection. In this war, more than in any other, the Mediterranean is the strategic centre. It is there that the war can be won by us, and won before 1942 if we make the offensive vigorously sustained offensive against Italy. This is the true strategy for this country. — Mrs. H. C. Ferraby, in "The Nineteenth Century."

America and Britain. When all the conquests had vanished like a mirage Napoleon left France smaller than he found it. On the other hand, he laid the foundations of German unity and made Bismarck possible. Never, up to then, had the mocking gods made more sport of man. What are they doing to Hitler? It looks as though they had chosen him to create the confederate defence of the English-speaking world, and so to bring about wider movements of law and justice which would restore freedom and the security of civilised peace, and the rule of freedom. While fighting for her own life in this war, Britain is fighting the less for the soul and body of America. The basis for the ideas and operations essential to the future safety and happiness of the United States. The United States and Canada should establish a permanent joint command. The presence of a landmark in the political history of the American continent. But not less momentous as the direct negotiations between Washington and London. Washington needs the lease of British bases in North American waters and the Caribbean Sea. Britain needs the use of America's older destroyers. — Mr. J. L. Garvin.

The Radio Front. — Before the war our Britain had 15 broadcast stations. 12 were high-powered, operating on 12 wave-lengths. We had 45 stations, 10 of which were high-powered, operating on 31 wave-lengths. When we broke out Germany maintained all her wave-lengths and stations in operation, whereas we scuttled 10 of our 12 wave-lengths, and therefore had at the beginning of war 16 stations operating on two wave-lengths with one programme, against Germany's 40 stations on 31 wave-lengths. After the occupation of Poland enemy wireless stations increased to 50, with Norway and Denmark conquered. Germany increased her ether strength to 68 stations after the conquest of Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg, stations operated by Germany increased to 84, 13 of which were high-powered operating 62 wave-lengths. By that time we had re-opened three of our scuttled wave-lengths and were operating on five wave-lengths. After the capture of Paris and the French surrender Germany's ether power increased to 112 stations, and the most important came from the anti-British brigade. Apart from Germany's advantage in the ether, the geographical advantage of a natural disadvantage of the national radio point of view, Great Britain is situated at the end of a continent, and therefore 19 degrees of its stations radiation falls into the Atlantic and only one-fifth on fertile soil. Germany, on the other hand, is situated in the middle of Europe, and all the 360 degrees of her broadcasting waves fall on fertile soil in all directions. What is the remedy? We should create in Great Britain a great number of freedom stations, manned by nationals of the conquered countries. They should broadcast throughout the 24 hours. Two should be allotted to Norway, two to Denmark, two to Holland, two to Belgium and probably four or five to France. Our present broadcasts of 15 minutes a time to the inhabitants of the occupied countries are not good enough. — Captain Phillips, M.P.

Hitler with whatever reluctance, must now acknowledge that the contemporary specimens of the British race are not the craven, spineless creatures that Ribbentrop assured him they were. — British Weekly.

The War News

Opinions Epitomised. — We need prophets who will make plain even careless people that any secure civilisation must be Christian civilisation. — The Bishop of Norwich.

Our seafaring breed has made the air its own. — Mr. Christian Barman.

The frontiers of India are now on the Suez Canal. — Sir Frederick Sykes, M.P.

You cannot win a war with 800,000 unemployed. — Mr. Hore Belisha, M.P.

Slackness and inefficiency today in any walk of life are treason. — Mr. C. B. Cochran.

Men are as secret about their wages as women about their ages. — Mr. Paul Bennett, V.C.

Hitler is the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse rolled into one. — Colonel Henry Brudenell Bourne.

The true test of progress lies in the spiritual life of individual souls. — Mr. J. R. Mozley.

Bombers that can fly seven miles high are now being made for the R.A.F. — Mr. John Slee.

The R.A.F. is the sharp spear which is piercing the vitals of Germany. — The Marquis of Crewe.

The Government's languishing plant in peace is coming into its own in time of war. — Sir Wyndham Deedes.

The complacency and self-satisfaction of some of our Ministers knows no bounds. — Lieutenant Colonel Moore-Brabazon, M.P.

It was the Spanish ulcer that ate into the vitals of Napoleon. It may prove the cancer which Hitler so much dreads. — Mr. Cocks, M.P.

Any Government Department which cannot be criticised in the House has behind it no guarantee of efficiency. — Mr. Lees-Smith, M.P.

The greatest of all economics is that everyone should be productively employed according to his or her capacity. — Mr. Lawrence How.

It would be a good thing if some recognised leaders of Dominion opinion could be brought into the inner Cabinet. — Sir Percy Harris, M.P.

The provision of call boxes inside barracks may not have been a necessity for the peace-time soldier, but it would be a welcome facility for the new Army. — Mr. Ian Black.

Hitler is now sprawled over Europe. Our offensive springs are being slowly compressed, and we must resolutely and methodically prepare ourselves for the campaigns of 1941 and 1942. — The Prime Minister.

The flag of Rumania has been instructed by Hitler to eliminate the Jews. This is Hitler's special sign manual, his signature name. — Mr. J. A. Spender.

French art has always tended towards the purity of music, German towards the impurity of expressionism. — Mr. Edward Sackville West.

M. Baudouin will file France's petition of bankruptcy, and stay to take up the rôle of liquidator. — M. Elie-J. Bois, former Mayor of Paris.

Nothing but the skill in the hands and the heroism in the hearts of the men of the R.A.F. has saved our cities from the fate of Warsaw. — The Evening Standard.

The U.S.A. is now producing about 1,000 planes a month of which during August Great Britain expects to get 236. — Mr. Knudsen, President, General Motors.

We should appeal for alien volunteers here willing to be dropped by parachute over Germany for German-occupied territory. — Mr. Verpon Bartlett, M.P.

The Nazi offensive against Britain has been held up because Spain refused to permit the passage of German troops for an attack on Gibraltar. — New York Post.

The Red Cross War Organisation is today spending at the rate of £1,000,000 a year in providing British prisoners in Germany with food, clothes and books. — Lord Iliffe.

The motor-cycle combinations with Bren guns which I have seen in our country's legs would have been invaluable when the Germans were over-running France. — Mr. Belenger, M.P.

Perhaps the supreme blessing enjoyed by this country today is that the man who leads us is also the man who can put our deepest convictions into memorable words. — Times and Tide.

The fate of our civilisation depends on some thousands of young pilots of an average age of 23 years perhaps, whose courage and skill is saving the world and earning its admiration. — Lord Halifax.

If the pacifists are right it is always a moral evil to fight, and equally if the pacifists are wrong it is a moral evil to refuse to fight in the cause of justice when the call comes. — The Dean of St. Paul's.

Drivers of motor vehicles should not accelerate in low gear, especially after dark, since the high-pitched ascending note sounds exactly like an air raid siren. — Sir Christopher Robinson.

Good will never overcome evil merely because it is good. It will overcome evil when men make it work a miracle for us without any effort on our part. — The Rev. W. J. Rogers.

We have not overlooked the suggestion that no more than one Cabinet Minister, chief of the Fighting Services, or important civil servant shall travel in any aircraft at any one time. — R. Atlee, M.P.

In the correspondence our newspapers have on the subject whatever the reasons are, conspicuously false, or the more conspicuously lacking, the writer is usually an expert in something else. — Mr. G. A. Young.

The wonderful achievements of our bombers, going across Europe in the dark and spotting an aeroplane works in Britain or a canal junction in Germany, are a triumph of navigation, daring, and efficiency. — Lord Addison.

It should be made more widely known that the primary funds for food, clothing and other war equipment so that shipments of food to Europe would merely release more food to be converted into more war food. — Mr. R. L. Brain.

It is better to be unselfcentred than self-centred; for everyone it is better to work for a good outside himself, to recognise a duty which claims him, and in whose fulfilment his life finds its meaning. — Professor H. A. Hodges.

Today Americans are being fitted in admiration of your stubborn courage as we were puzzled by your failure to appreciate the implications of German preparedness. — Mr. S. Murray Thomson, proprietor of Chicago Daily Times.

During the last 15 weeks there have been only two nights during which enemy targets have not been attacked from this country. A squadron which I have just visited has averaged a hundred trips a month to Germany since last April. — Miss Virginia Cowles.

The United States is in as great a peril today as was France a year ago. Without the British Navy the Atlantic would give us no more protection than the Maggot Line gave France after Germany had invaded Belgium. — Mr. William Bullitt, American Ambassador to France.

The German exerts himself under conditions of full-scale organisation, as the whole of the Prussian army proves, but that history equally proves that he does not excel in fighting against odds after defeat begins. Indeed, he has hardly ever undertaken the task when he breaks he crumbles. — Mr. Talbot Bell.

Death of Mr. J. W. Downie

SIR HON. JOHN WALLACE DOWNIE, C.M.G., who died in the capital city of Southern Rhodesia on Thursday last at the age of 64, was recognised as one of the astute business men in that colony, in the public life of which he had also played a considerable part.

He was born in Glasgow, worked on a Scottish railway from the age of 13, and at 21 secured a humble appointment on the Rhodesian section of the Cape Government Railway. Ambitious to succeed, he left a few years later to become secretary to a mining company, from which he resigned to join the staff of Hadron, Colton and Butt, a well-known house engaged in foreign and general business in Bulawayo, Salisbury and Beira. When reconstruction became necessary he was made managing partner of the new firm, Scott and Downie, and thus had full scope for his strenuous hard work and determination, which were reflected in the marked prosperity of the enterprise. It was soon and in 1910 Downie retired from business with a competence. From 1920 to 1924, however, he was again prominent as the very successful general manager of the Farmers' Co-operative Ltd., with Salisbury as his headquarters.

In Parliament and London

In 1925 at the period of the referendum held to decide whether Southern Rhodesia should join the Union of South Africa or assume self-government, he threw himself actively into politics for the first time, for he had long held that the Colony should manage its own concerns, but when Sir Charles Coghlan formed his first Ministry in 1924 Downie was, to the general surprise, not included, though he was soon afterwards appointed Colonial Secretary, in which office he quickly made his mark. Later he held the portfolios first of Agriculture and then of Mines and Public Works, and in each he showed energy and enterprise. He was Chairman of the Rhodesian Council from 1925 to 1929 and a member of the Rhodesian Parliament from 1929 to 1930, holding Cabinet office throughout those six years.

In 1930 he came to London as High Commissioner to Southern Rhodesia, succeeding Sir Francis Newton, who had won for himself universal esteem and affection, and being in his turn succeeded by the present general Commissioner, the Hon. S. M. Lanigan O'Keeffe, who had been a pertinacious political opponent of Downie's in the House of Assembly in Southern Rhodesia, but a personal friend. To follow Sir Francis Newton was a severe test for anyone, especially for a man lacking his urbanity and wise tolerance, but on the commercial side of his duties Downie was well served by his own extensive experience and the respect exacted by his forthrightness. Yet his four years in England were, on the whole, probably the most successful period of his career.

Extensive Public Services

After his return to the Colony he served on a number of important Government Commissions and Committees, and as director of several leading companies.

It has been expected that he would return to politics, and strong pressure was brought on him to ally himself with the small but such pertinacious opposition to Mr. Huggins. Downie, however, decided that it was not in that way that he could be of use to the Colony to which he was so strongly attached, and he did not seek re-entry to the House. At the request of the Prime Minister he became Controller of Supplies at the outbreak of war, and he had also accepted chairmanship of the committee set up to organise the Jubilee Celebrations which were to have been held this year.

Downie was sent to London on the same scale at the time of the railway negotiations and was by Sir Charles Coghlan two years ago as a special commissioner for an Empire-wide campaign to encourage tobacco growing, and in 1929 and 1930 he attended the Customs Conferences between South Africa and Rhodesia. In 1932 he went to Ottawa as adviser to the Southern Rhodesian delegation, and after his retirement from London he visited the Argentine and Brazil, Canada and the U.S.A., New Zealand and Australia in his personal capacity, always with the idea of acquiring knowledge valuable from the standpoint of Rhodesian development. At one time he had been Chairman of the Rhodesian Agricultural and Horticultural Society for several years, and agricultural progress continued to interest him greatly. The development of civil aviation also attracted him in later life, and he became Chairman of Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways, Ltd., better known as "Rana."

Mr. Downie married in 1910 the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Carrol, of Bulawayo, and leaves one son and one daughter, with all of whom deep sympathy will be felt.

Present High Commissioner's Tribute

Mr. S. M. Lanigan O'Keeffe writes:—
I had known Mr. Downie for many years, almost from the day he arrived in Southern Rhodesia, and I have always admired his strength of purpose, business ability, and, above all, his loyalty to Rhodesia. To be personal for a moment—I shall always remember his kindness to me, when, as a young political opponent of his, I first entered Parliament. Mr. Downie took all kinds of trouble to save me from many pitfalls and to keep me on the straight road of Parliamentary rectitude. His death is a great loss to Rhodesia.

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Somaliland Withdrawal Discussed in the Commons

THE WITHDRAWAL FROM SOMALILAND was mentioned by several speakers in the House of Commons last week when Mr. Churchill surveyed the war situation.

The Prime Minister said:—"It had been decided some time before the beginning of the war not to defend Somaliland. That policy was changed when the French gave in, and when our small forces there, a few battalions, a few guns, were attacked by all the Italian troops, nearly two divisions, which had formerly faced the French at Jibuti, it was right to withdraw our detachments, virtually intact, for action elsewhere. Far larger operations no doubt impend in the Middle East theatre. We intend to do our best to give a good account of ourselves, and to discharge faithfully and resolutely all our obligations and duties in that quarter of the world."

Criticisms of Mr. L. S. Smith

Mr. Leo Smith, said in the War Office communiqué issued that morning, it is clear that the story as France capitulated, it became inevitable that Somaliland would have to be withdrawn. He presumed there is some sort of liaison between the Secretaries Departments and the newspapers and the press and it is most unfortunate and misleading that the B.B.C. and the newspapers, even "The Times," should have put out statements practically saying that the Italians had undertaken a task of immense difficulty, and that their difficulties would increase every time they advanced towards the coast.

The Prime Minister:—"If you do intend not to use more than a certain amount of force in delaying the enemy it would be most important not to let the enemy beforehand what you are going to do."

Mr. Leo Smith:—"I doubt, in fact, whether the B.B.C. and "The Times" Cairo correspondent were a part of our British espionage methods, but if that is so we are going to be in great difficulties because it means that the public can at any moment be misled as to an issue."

The Prime Minister:—"If the enemy had not advanced in great strength we should not have gone, but when he did advance in great strength it was not to our interest to remain there and to expend a great deal of our strength in doing so."

Mr. Forester-Bellah, former Secretary of State for War, said Mr. Churchill had spoken so encouragingly of the future that one was almost compelled to forget the slight reverse we had had in Somaliland.

Greater Improbability of Abyssinian Revolt

It is as well to face the position candidly, he continued. The Italian victory is part of a great design. It brings to our enemy certain advantages, although one must not exaggerate them. It cuts off Jibuti from us on the landward side—and we might need at some future date to advance up the railway to Addis Ababa. It removes us to a greater region of improbability. It long-awaited Abyssinian revolt, and blunts the sword which we held into one of the Italian flanks. It enables the enemy to concentrate the better on his great purpose.

Earl Winterston, after mentioning that Germany and Italy had some 120,000,000 people who would support the war, while Britain and the Dominions had some 60,000,000, said that sooner or later, and sooner rather than later, we should have to develop to the fullest possible degree the almost limitless resources in men and material of Africa and India. He hoped that the Government and the Secretaries of State for the Colonies and India would set their minds to using the greatest land army that the world has ever known.

Mr. Cocks said one of our statesmen had been told to send an ultimatum to Mussolini telling him that

Italy was not subject to a military attack. He said that he would regard that as a very serious step, that he would regard that as a very serious step, and had he chosen the second alternative, he would have been knocked out long ago. France might still have been fighting, and Somaliland would still be ours. Why did we withdraw about Abyssinia? A successful revolt there might disconcert the formidable Italian designs in the Middle East.

We ask for a clearer call to the Abyssinian people, and all we get is the muffled muttering of mealy-mouthed mediocrity. It is quite certain that the Government reply that they reserve complete liberty of action in regard to any commitment entered into in the past with the Italian Government was not drafted by the Prime Minister. Let Mr. Churchill utter a few clear and pungent sentences telling the Abyssinian people that we will help them to be free and that we ask them to fight for their freedom and for the world. The British Government has stated that it will resist any attempt on the part of the enemy to occupy Syria. Does that apply also to Jibuti? I hope so. I hope that if the Italians attempt to occupy that port we shall immediately blast them out of it.

Captain Duncan said it seemed to him right that the British Government should have announced officially that Haile Selassie had reached Khartoum, but they lacked imagination when they left him there and said nothing more officially or unofficially of his movements.

If we are to run a propaganda Machiavellian manner, let us run it in a thoroughly Machiavellian manner. If further operations are undertaken we ought to have rumours, not a official Foreign Office statements, about Haile Selassie and his army leaders, possibly all over the place in Kenya or South-West Abyssinia, perhaps in Cassala, in disguise, if necessary, and that the Italians of the *qui vive*, never know of the Abyssinian revolt. The British Government should get rid of preparatory Foreign Office rumours and propagate any amount of rumour to the detriment of the enemy.

Someone Has Blundered

Mrs. Vernon Bartlett said the effect of apparently small accidents, such as the evacuation of Somaliland, went very deeply home to the people of this country.

The Somaliland evacuation suggests that somewhere someone has blundered very severely. We were assured not so long ago that we should be able to hold that territory. The Secretary for War shakes his head, but I suggest he should get after the people who speak on his behalf at the Ministry of Information. Although the colonel who speaks for the War Office at that Ministry is one of the best intelligence officers I have met, I think the world Press has been given the impression that we were going to hold on to that territory. We were assured that the Italians could not rapidly advance along the coast, then we were told that they could, and so on.

Mr. John Morgan said the House had not been told all it would have liked about Somaliland. There seemed some contradiction between the Prime Minister's indication that although we were withdrawing from Somaliland because we were faced by superior forces we were quite ready to reinforce the Middle East from several directions. The question might be asked why in that case we did not attempt to reinforce Somaliland, particularly in view of the fact that it is known that the Governor of French Somaliland had indicated in a friendly way that he would not be able to resist British demands if they were put to him. We might have been in Jibuti ourselves by this time if we had taken the initiative. There may be considerations of higher strategy in the matter, and so it had to be left.

Mr. Morgan also emphasised that the country was very depopulated about the evacuation of Somaliland, and suggested that at least 50,000 Jews were willing and anxious to go to the Middle East.

Financing Colonial Crops Considered by the Joint Board

STRONG PLEAS that the Imperial Government should finance Colonial crops excluded from the Continent of Europe in present circumstances were made at the August meeting of the Executive Council of the Joint East African Board. Colonel Ponsonby presided.

The French collapse, said Mr. Wigglesworth, meant the loss of a market which had bought some 30,000 tons of sisal a year, mainly second grade not required by Great Britain or the U.S.A., and altogether there would within the next year be a production of between 50,000 and 100,000 tons surplus to current consumption. If the authorities were to purchase that surplus and store it, preferably in Europe, but in Africa if necessary, the sisal growing industry would be saved, and great areas of Europe would be spared the starvation which was to be foreseen if binder-twine were not quickly available for the gathering of the harvest immediately following the expulsion of the Germans from the lands they have occupied.

Mr. Wigglesworth condemned proposals for the restriction of output, since that meant reducing the cutting of leaf and accelerating the piling of the plant, with grave effects upon the industry. The British Government, which had undertaken to purchase this year's Egyptian cotton crop because the blockade imposed by the Royal Navy shut Egypt out of her normal markets, ought not to be less ready to finance unsaleable sisal from East Africa, especially as the present price was most moderate and was calculated to produce a profit for the taxpayer. He thought that a large part of next year's crops on the Continent would rot for lack of binder-twine.

Colonel Ponsonby, M.P., Mr. Alexander Hamilton, Sir Humphrey Leggett, and Mr. W. F. Jenkins all felt that a good case could be prepared for submission to the Imperial Government, which, Mr. Hamilton said, was showing much practical sympathy with Kenya in the disposal of her surplus maize. The general feeling was that the principle at issue should apply to the surplus production of permanent crops.

War Risks Insurance

Further consideration was given to the proposed institution of compulsory schemes in East Africa for the insurance of merchandise against war risks, and the Chairman reported that definite progress had been made towards arranging a mutually satisfactory basis for the cover of the cotton crop in Tanganyika Territory.

Mr. A. M. Cameron hoped that next year's cotton output in Uganda might reach the splendid record total of 500,000 bales, and emphasised that insurance should be compulsory and should cover all territories and all commodities. Mr. Chandler had heard only that morning that for the current Mwanza crop there was to be a levy of 2 cents per lb., estimated to produce £20,000. The Chairman said that every member of the Board domiciled in this country and engaged in commercial business in East Africa who had been approached had favoured the idea of a compulsory scheme.

Mr. Joelson suggested that the appointment of Sir Philip Mitchell as Deputy Chairman of the Governors' Conference and the decision a few days ago to set up a new Economic Committee for the whole of Eastern Africa provided means of short-circuiting discussions with each of the Governments and of expediting action.

Mr. Wigglesworth said he had learnt with dismay that this new Economic Committee was to be entrusted with the duty of seeking new markets for East African produce, and he deplored its intervention between producers and consumers. The attempt of officials to interfere in such business matters could do nothing but

harm, and the very idea had created prompt alarm amongst producers and merchants.

The Chairman recalled that an agricultural delegation composed of officials and officials from East Africa, with a non-official Chairman, had recently spent some time in England in the position and would be able to give a better view of the position. Mr. Joelson pointed out that the commodity in question so far appointed in East Africa had been non-officials in each case, and must therefore be presumed to be alert to the commercial difficulties and dangers.

Military Medical Service

Sir Humphrey Leggett referred to the extremely heavy losses from malaria and other largely preventable tropical diseases suffered during the East African Campaign of the last war, and to the astonishingly small amount of sickness among the Italian forces in their attack upon Ethiopia. That startling difference was due to scrupulously utilising developing knowledge of which the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene was a pioneer. He suggested that large numbers of lives could be saved and much illness avoided by the attachment to medical headquarters in the East African theatre of one of a first class anti-malaria expert from the staff of the Institute.

Coffee for the Troops

Mr. Jenkins, having learnt that the London office of the Coffee Board of Kenya was to be closed at the end of August, expressed doubts whether anything like sufficient pressure had been exerted by East Africa to get Empire coffee accepted as an Army ration. There would be urged, it would be so splendid an opportunity of creating a taste for the beverage among millions of men, who would retain it after the war. In the last war his regiment—one of the best, of course—had been one of the few to secure a coffee ration, and he had then had ample evidence that bulk brewing could be most successful.



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Colonial Mining and E.P.T. Kakamega: Optimistic View

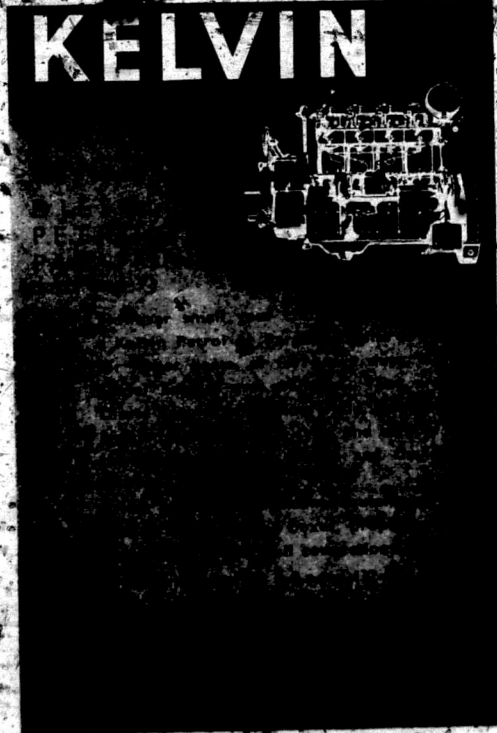
Shareholders of mining companies registered in this country and operating in East Africa or the Rhodesias will be interested in a question asked by Major Procter in the House of Commons last week.

He asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Dominions (1) whether his intention had been called to the position of base metal mining companies in the Colonies with a life of not more than approximately 20 years which were unable economically to increase their production at the present time by reason of the levy of 100% excess profits tax on them, and (2) whether he could arrange for the cases of such companies to be considered in the best interests of the Colonial Empire.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that provision had already been made to meet the case of such companies, which could apply to the Board of Revenue if Clause 13 of the present Finance Bill became law, for an increase not exceeding 4% in the rates of percentages on capital allowed for certain purposes of the excess profits tax.

Current Share Prices

Current prices of East African and Rhodesian shares on the London Stock Exchange are as follows: British South Africa Company, 4s. 6d.; Bushfire, 5s. 3d.; Cam and Motoc, 11s. 6d.; Eileen Albion, 2s. 6d.; Gaba, 4d.; Globe and Phoenix, 11s. 6d.; Gold Fields Rhodesian, 4s.; Kavirondo, 3d.; Kenya, 2s. 6d.; Kenya Consolidated, 3d.; Kenya Gold Mining Syndicate, 2s. 6d.; London and Rhodesia, 2s.; Lonely Reef, 1s.; Lydenburg, 1s. 6d.; Nyanza, 1s. 6d.; Phoenix, 1s. 6d.; Rhodesian Mining, Broken Hill, 2s. 6d.; Rhodesian, 1s. 6d.; Rhodesian Mines, 4d.; Rhodesian American, 13s. 9d.; Rhodesian Corporation, 2s.; Rhodesian Selection Trust, 9s.; Rhokina Corporation, 27s. 6d.; Ross Antelope, 11s. 9d.; Rosserman Gold Mines, 2s.; Selection Trust, 6s. 6d.; Sherwood, 3d.; Sinyika Concessions, ord., 2s. 6d.; pref., 1s. 9d.; T. S. 3d.; T. S. 3d.; T. S. 3d.; Wanderer, 16s.; Zambesia Colliery, 8s.; Zambesia Exploration, 3s.



A geological report on Western Kakamega, between Kakamega proper and No. 2 Area, has been prepared by Dr. W. P. Kelly, of the Kenya Geological Department.

Incidentally, he says, the area consists of a trough of folded sediments striking to a general east-west direction and lying between granite masses both to the north and south. He regards it as an area of very favorable possibilities and believes that a vigorous programme of detailed prospecting would probably lead to valuable discoveries. In fact, in few of the areas so far studied is the location of possible foci of gold mineralisation more clearly indicated by the geology.

Company Progress Reports

Washaba Rhodesian Asbestos.—The new mine plant worked for 14 days during July, producing 21 tons of asbestos.

Wanderer Consolidated.—Report for quarter ended June 30 states that 14,100 tons were milled for a recovery of 10,419 oz. fine gold, worth £95,903. Working costs—£63,226; working profit, £32,152. Development footage—2,076 ft. The Surprise section, totalled 3,555 ft., compared with 5,522 ft. for the previous quarter. The footage sampled amounted to 5,310 ft., of which 1,645 ft. was payable with an average of 4.2 dwt. At the Surprise section a distance of 371 ft. was advanced, of which 255 ft. was sampled. Payable footage amounted to 65 ft. av. 4.6 dwt. over 30 ft. ins. width.

New Safa Mines.—Progress report for the quarter ended June 30 states that 10,820 tons were milled for 3,706 oz. fine gold and 2,067 oz. silver. Development, £98 ft.; stoping preparation, 1,601 ft. surface development, 106 ft. All-in costs from January to June were 44.84s. per ton; cost per fine oz. £25.91s. per ton. Intermittent trouble with the Humbolt engines is still being experienced, but the first replacement head has been reached. The other five heads will follow shortly. Tonnage crushed shows an increase of 3,025 tons compared with the quarter ended June 30, 1939, while the value of bullion produced shows an increase of £40,600. It must be borne in mind that stamping did not begin until April, 1940. Good progress is being made with the development and construction programmes. The mine has been dewatered down to the third level from No. 1 shaft, and preparations are being made to cross-cut to the reefs on this horizon.

Consolidated Mining Law

A Bill has been introduced into the Kenya Legislative Council consolidating the numerous amendments made since the Mining Ordinance came into operation in 1933.

Base Minerals and the Enemy

The Southern Rhodesian Government has decided that in the situation of the war no further particulars of base minerals production shall be published since information of that description might be of value to the enemy. The Government will publish periodically the total value of base mineral production without any indication of how the aggregate is made up.

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News Items Brief Rhodesia Railways Trust

Bilawayo's new nerve reservoir at Nene is now in service.

The Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council will re-assemble in Lusaka on September 7.

Favourable reports are being made to increase beeswax production in the Northern Province of Northern Rhodesia.

Additional grants totalling £3,000 are to be made to missions in Nyasaland this year to enable them to carry on assisted schools.

During the first five months of this year Uganda exported 278,900 bales of cotton. Cotton tax collection amounted to £88,474.

Jubilee commemorative stamps sold in Southern Rhodesia during June, the first month of the issue, were valued at £9,302.

Almost all Italy's stocks of coffee are reserved for the military authorities. Where coffee can be bought the price is about 30s. per lb.

The Italian ship SISTIANA, which formerly operated up and down the East African coast, has been declared a lawful prize by the South African Government and renamed MEXICA.

Arrangements have now been completed for the opening of new schools in Kenya or the reception into existing schools of all children evacuated from Government boarding schools in Nairobi.

A new aeroplane acquired by the Aero Club of Beira has been christened "Buzi" in tribute to the assistance given by the population of that district and by the Companhia Colonial do Buzi.

The Uganda Cotton Association has appealed its members to raise further funds by levying 1s. per bale on all cotton lint produced in the 1938-39 season. It is hoped that £15,000 will thus be raised.

A Native who had spread false reports about British military action in the Northern Frontier Province has been sentenced in Nairobi to one year's imprisonment with hard labour. He had said the British were afraid to fight the Italians.

An official announcement issued in Nyasaland states that, if shipping difficulties do not increase, there is reason to believe that an increase in the production of fire-cured tobacco would be justified next season, and that in view of the West African demand for Nyasaland tobacco a similar increase in the production of fire-cured tobacco might be contemplated.

A committee has been formed in Southern Rhodesia to advise the Minister of Agriculture on the best way to provide for the Colony's requirements of artificial fertilisers during the war. The members are Mr. A. D. Husband, Chief Chemist; Mr. H. E. Ellis, of the Tobacco Research Board; Mr. N. A. Phillip, representing the fertiliser firms; and Mr. J. Brown.

The accounts of Rhodesia Railways Trust for the year ended March 31 state that interest and dividends amounted to £78,726, compared with £74,887 for the preceding 12 months. Registration fees totalled £10, making the total receipts £78,736, against £176,890, this figure including £100,000 dividend from Rhodesia Railways and £1,976 from other investments. Income tax and A.C. amount to £26,221, directors' fees to £2,094, and interest and sundries to £2,127. The credit balance amounts to £48,292, against £77,183.

Results of Rhodesia Railways for the year to September 30, 1949, were submitted to the Railway Commission in Rhodesia in February last, but owing to various matters, including the question of taxation, not having yet been settled, the accounts are still outstanding.

Rhodesia Railways report that, subject to adjustment, operating results for the year to September 30 disclosed a gross revenue of £4,481,176, against £5,036,636 for the preceding year. Working expenses, including depreciation, amounted to £3,704,333, against £3,116,363, net earnings thus being £1,386,843, against £1,920,272. The fall in gross revenue was largely due to special conditions in agreement rates offered to Northern Rhodesian mining companies and to general reductions in fares and rates. From the net earnings £1,100,702 has to be paid for debenture service.

Tea Rationing Benefits Coffee

During the past few weeks' demand in this country for Empire coffees has been stimulated by the rationing of the state Messrs. John K. Gilliat in their latest market review. Although offerings of East African coffees have been small and of moderate quality, a considerable business has consequently been done by private treaty in the market at fully steady to rather dearer prices.

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Questions in Parliament

Coordination of East African Defence

Mr. LEWIS asked whether, with a view to the more efficient co-ordination of defence in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, the Secretary of State would consider the desirability of appointing a Governor-General with supreme authority over those three countries for the duration of the war.

Mr. George Hall replied that, in order to provide for effective civil co-ordination and to ensure the best use of resources in the common war effort of the East African Dependencies, Lord Lloyd had recently approved a reconstitution of the Conference of East African Governors for the period of the war. The Governor of Kenya had become Chairman of the Conference, and Sir Philip Mitchell had been appointed Deputy Chairman. The latter gentleman was in general charge of the Conference. It was felt that efficient co-ordination would be secured by such arrangements.

Mr. Lewis asked whether, with a view to the more efficient co-operation of defence in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, the desirability of appointing a Commander-in-Chief with supreme authority over all the military forces in those three countries for the duration of the war would be considered.

Sir Edward Grigg, who replied on behalf of the Secretary of State for War, said that steps had been taken to co-ordinate the defence of these territories, but that it would perhaps be agreed that it would not be in the national interest to give further information.

Labour Conditions in Northern Rhodesia

Asked by Mr. E. Harvey what steps had been taken during the last two years to implement the report of Major Orde Browne on labour conditions in Northern Rhodesia, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies replied that the most important recommendation, namely, that for the creation of new machinery to deal with labour matters, had been adopted by the Government. A Labour Commissioner was appointed in 1938, and the separate Labour Department created last year was in process of expansion. The Labour Commissioner had been appointed Chairman of the Native Industrial Labour Advisory Board, and an officer of the Department had been stationed in Southern Rhodesia to safeguard the interests of Northern Rhodesian Natives working in that country.

Considerable progress had been made in improving the conditions of the Copper belt since 1938 as the result of the appointment of welfare officers and welfare sisters, the building of schools, and the provision of additional amenities for the mine workers and their families. Questions of recruitment and the control of immigration were receiving Government attention.

It had been given by a similar resolution to Major Orde Browne's recommendations, the improvement of the Employment of Natives Ordinance and of the regulations made under it.

Mr. Harvey asked whether attention had also been given to Major Orde Browne's comment about the urgent need of the enlargement of Natives reserves, as he had said two and a quarter years ago that the position was critical.

Mr. Hall: "The matter is under consideration."

Mr. Harvey: "The position was critical two and a quarter years ago. What action has been taken?"

Mr. E. D. Bore: "It is under active consideration."

During the second reading of the Armed Forces Bill, the object of which is to organise in one common bill the various Allied forces in England, Mr. Mander was told that the Bill could be made to apply to such forces operating in British Colonies. He said he hoped and believed it would not be long before Haile Selassie was to be again in his country leading his people as part of an organised campaign, rendering us the greatest assistance in defeating the Italians, and making their small hold on Ethiopia impossible to maintain. The Ethiopians were another ally who might well come under the measure in certain conditions, because they might be operating in Kenya and the Sudan.

Raw Materials of the Colonial Empire

Mr. Eric asked whether, in view of the surplus of raw materials and products accumulating in Africa and Asia, and which could not at the moment find a market, steps could be taken to consider their processing and storage in the Colonies so that they might be ready when the time came.

Mr. Greenwood replied that the question of the disposal of surpluses of raw materials and products in the Colonial Empire and in other parts of the world was under consideration by a sub-committee of the Economic Policy Committee. Particular attention was being given to the possibilities of establishing storing and processing facilities.

Mr. Gocks asked for information regarding the present position in the Belgian Congo, and whether M. de Witte had yet taken up his duties as administrator.

Mr. A. Butler replied that since June 18 the Belgian Minister for the Colonies, who was in London, had been exercising the full powers with which he had been invested as Administrator-General of the Belgian Colonies. The local administration was under the Governor-General, M. Ryckmans, who declared on June 25 that the resources of the Congo were at the entire service of the Alliance. Certain economic problems arising for the Congo as a result of the enemy occupation of Belgium were under discussion with the M. Government.

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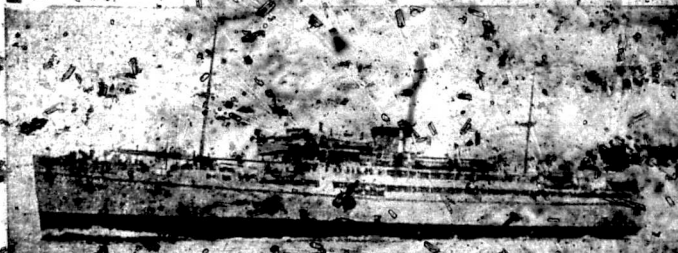
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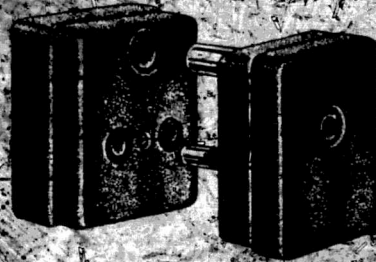
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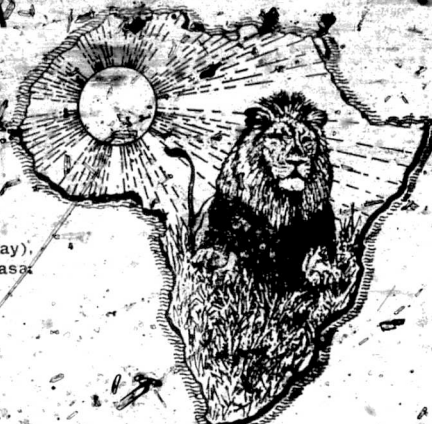
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